

## Heavy fighting in Somali capital

MOGADISHU (AP) — Heavy fighting was reported Friday in Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, between rival factions of the nation's ruling party. The fighting began Thursday night and involved forces loyal to Interim President Ali Mahdi Mohammed and those of General Mohamed Farah Aidid, according to sources in radio contact with Mogadishu. The reported fighting appeared to be the heaviest since January, when former dictator Mohamed Siad Barre fled the capital after a month of battles between his forces and the United Somali Congress political party. The party is one of three main rebel groups that fought to topple Mr. Siad Barre. The group now is in control of the country. Aidid is the party's chairman and chief of parliament. Telecommunications in Mogadishu were cut in January and have not been restored. Reports of the latest unrest came from sources in Nairobi who have satellite radio contact with Mogadishu. The reported fighting threatens to shut down medical and food relief operations in the city of one million people. At least one relief organization, Save the Children, evacuated six of its seven staff members because of Friday's reported fighting, the sources said. The battling factions represent opponents within the Somali Hawiye clan, from which the United Somali Congress draws its support.

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## Jordan, Syria to review cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Saad Hayel Al Strou left for Syria Friday at the head of a Jordanian delegation to take part in the meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Sub-Committee which will start in Damascus Saturday. During its three-day meetings the committee will discuss a mechanism for implementing minutes of the last meeting, which was held in Amman. The meeting is aimed at enhancing bilateral cooperation in the field of housing, establishing residential areas, developing low-income housing estates and avoiding random expansion around cities and towns. The committee will also discuss scopes of cooperation in the fields of contracts, engineering consultations and carrying out joint projects. The Jordanian delegation to the meetings will present a working paper on the practical means for enhancing cooperation in the areas of housing and public works, including road construction, contracts, engineering consultancy, and regional planning.

## Sudan says rebels kidnapped 10,000 children

KHARTOUM (R) — A Sudanese military leader has accused southern rebels of kidnapping 10,000 children for training as guerrillas and appealed to the world to help get them back. Colonel Mohammad Al Amin Khalif, a member of the ruling military junta, made the allegation at a rally Thursday in Malakal, capital of Upper Nile state in southern Sudan. He called on the international community to help get the children back to resume their education at Malakal, 700 kilometres south of Khartoum, in the capital. The government has repeatedly levelled allegations of forced recruitment against the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), which has fought an eight-year war to end what it sees as domination by the north.

## Bombs kill two women in Lebanon

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — Two women were killed by bombs near a village inside Israel's "security zone" in South Lebanon Friday, security sources said. They said two bombs were planted against a wall near Qana, eight kilometres west of the Israeli border. Israeli troops and the Israeli-backed South Lebanon army controlled the zone.

## Four rebels killed in Turkish clash

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey (AP) — Four Kurdish rebels were killed in a clash with security forces in southeastern Turkey Friday and a child died when troops fired to end an ensuing riot, the semi-official Anatolia news agency said. The clash occurred near the township of Kurlan in Sirt province between an army patrol and separatist rebels, the agency said, quoting an official statement. Local sources said three soldiers were injured in the shootout, but this could not be officially confirmed. A 10-year-old boy was fatally wounded when troops fired in the air to disperse an illegal demonstration in Kurlan, the agency said. Local sources said the demonstration had been in support of the outlawed Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) and to protest the killing of guerrillas.

## Westerners still missing in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Five middle-aged Westerners were still missing Friday a week after rebel Kurds kidnapped them at a roadblock in the mountains of eastern Turkey. A manhunt involving up to 5,000 Turkish troops, police and special anti-terror squads has so far failed to find the three Americans, a Briton and an Australian, all in their fifties. The separatist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) is thought to be holding the men, at least two of them Biblical archaeologists looking for Noah's Ark, but it has not claimed responsibility.

## Kuwait should compensate returnees from Iraqi war reparation — Regent

### Jordan could benefit from talents of returned expatriates ● Israel gets incentive for defiance, but Jordan pressured for moderation

By Lamm K. Andouel  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan will demand that Kuwait use part of its war reparations from Iraq to compensate Jordanians and Palestinians who have been forced out of the emirate and has asked the Kuwaiti government to extend the November deadline for the departure of all foreign nationals. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said this week.

In a joint interview with the Jordan Times and the Christian Science Monitor, Crown Prince Hassan also warned that the political, social and economic strain placed on Jordan as a result of the influx of the returnees can seriously undermine the Kingdom's ability to contribute effectively to the peace process. "You cannot enter into international obligations if you have some basic structural problems at home," the Crown Prince argued. "That is something that has to be recognised."

More than 280,000 Jordanian and Palestinian expatriates have returned to Jordan since the eruption of the Gulf crisis in August 2, 1990 and Jordanian officials expect the Kuwaiti government to expel more than 100,000 by the end of November.

Prince Hassan indicated that the Jordanian government was currently drawing a legal framework that would enable it to claim Kuwaiti compensation for Jordanian and Palestinian expatriates from war reparations imposed by the U.N. against Iraq.

"Logically I believe that (Kuwait's reparations) should include reparations for these people because, after all, they are Kuwaiti dependents," he said. "There has to be a recognition of the fact that you do not just summarily expel people without due recognition of their basic rights."

The Crown Prince said that the Jordanian government has asked Kuwait, through various channels, to extend the November

deadline. "The November deadline regarding foreign nationals will directly affect the future of Palestinians, Jordanians and Jordanian document holders," he asserted. "We have been trying through different channels to impress upon them that effectively this deadline should be extended."

Although most of the Jordanians and Palestinians who were forced to leave are from Kuwait, other Gulf states are also expelling Jordanian expatriates.

Voicing strong criticism of the Gulf states' attitude towards Jordanian and Palestinian expatriates, the Crown Prince warned that such policies could undermine the Middle East peace process.

"The most ancillary issue is for them to contribute to the stability of the region during peace talks," Prince Hassan said. "But I do not see how they are contributing to a stable process... by making Jordan's task and the Palestinians' task that much more difficult,

throwing human suffering at us the way they are."

"How is this irresponsible arrangement (going to) work out?" Prince Hassan asked.

The Crown Prince warned that pressures that are being exerted on Jordan and the Palestinians can crucially undermine Arab efforts to regain Palestinian national rights through a negotiated settlement.

"To effectively undermine (our) domestic constituency (meaning Jordanians and Palestinians) and to make it bitter is basically to say good-bye to Palestine," he said.

The Crown Prince drew a contrast between the way Jordan, "which has said yes to the peace process," is being "punished," and the way Israel is being treated by providing it with incentives to take part in the negotiations.

He pointed out that in the case of Israel the incentive (the proposed \$10 billion in housing loan guarantees for absorbing Soviet Jewish immigrants) will in itself



be a major obstacle to the very peace process that the U.S. is trying to talk Israel into entering.

"At the end of the day, is there a genuine interest in seeing \$10 billion in housing loan guarantees as the incentive for Israel to say yes only to find a no?" he asked. "I mean that is a very painful way of effectively saying: Yes, I (meaning Israel) will attend the peace process if it includes affirmation of the settlement policy."

The Crown Prince expressed the view that in contrast Jordan is placed in a situation whereby it wants to take part in the peace conference but may be unable to contribute effectively to the process because of pressures it is being subjected to.

"The question does pose itself: (Continued on page 5)

## Kuwait favours boycott of some Arabs

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's national assembly is considering asking the government to impose a formal boycott of Arab and foreign states that it sees as having backed Iraq during the Gulf crisis. Hamed Ibrahim Al Tawjri, head of the assembly's foreign relations committee, told Friday's Sawt Al Kuwait newspaper that countries on the boycott list should be Jordan, Yemen, Algeria, Sudan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. He said some non-Arab states should be included, but did not name them. "We should boycott those countries in response to their political and military support to Iraq during its brutal occupation of Kuwait," Mr. Tawjri was quoted as saying. Kuwait has already loosened ties with countries which failed to rally to the U.S.-led coalition which ended Iraq's occupation of the emirate in February. Some 300,000 Palestinians, who were the backbone of the service industry, have been pressured to leave and thousands of Sudanese and Yemenis have also left the country. Mr. Tawjri said Kuwaitis should be banned from travelling to Iraq. "We will ask the government to stamp Kuwaiti passports with the phrase 'valid for travel to all countries except Iraq,'" he said. Kuwait has downgraded its diplomatic representation in Jordan, Sudan, Algeria, Tunisia, Yemen and Mauritania during the Gulf war.

## Bush asks Congress to wait on Israel's \$10b loan request

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush Friday asked Congress to "give peace a chance" and delay for 120 days consideration of a request by Israel for \$10 billion in loan guarantees.

"I am going to ask every single member of Congress to defer just for 120 days consideration of this absorption aid package," he said. "It would help Israel deal with a huge refugee influx," Mr. Bush told reporters in a photo session with Secretary of State James Baker.

Mr. Bush said the deferral time is needed while Mr. Baker confers with leaders in Israel and in Arab countries in an effort to get them to sit down at the peace table.

Mr. Bush summoned reporters to the White House Oval Office following a meeting with Mr. Baker and said the possibility of giving loan backing to Israel for the resettlement of Jews leaving the Soviet Union could threaten the peace process.

"We will take no chance of unravelling the peace process," Mr. Bush said firmly. "I know it is in the interest of world peace to have this deferred," he said.

"It is in the best interest of the peace process and of peace itself that consideration of this... question for Israel be deferred for 120 days," Mr. Bush said.

He said he would personally call members of Congress to lobby by them, as Israel pushes ahead with its request.

Mr. Bush and Mr. Baker are trying to promote an October peace conference in the Middle East, Mr. Baker will visit the

region on a trip that will also include stops in Moscow and the Baltic republics next week.

Mr. Baker has had two recent conversations with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on the matter and Mr. Bush said that "I gather he (Mr. Shamir) wants to go forward" with the request for loan guarantees.

Mr. Bush said "we don't need an acrimonious debate" in Congress over the aid question as the delicate negotiations towards a peace conference proceed.

The Bush administration had asked Israel to delay requesting the loan backing but was rebuffed. Israel chose instead to apply pressure on members of Congress to act quickly on the request.

"This is no time to inflame the passions on both sides," Mr. Bush told reporters.

Mr. Bush insisted it was more important to postpone action in hopes of putting together a peace conference to end the fight between Arabs and Jews.

"I'm going to fight it because this is what the American people want," he said.

Mr. Bush and Mr. Baker repeatedly said "give peace a chance" in the troubled region.

Mr. Baker plans to focus on efforts to convene a Middle East peace conference when he holds foreign policy discussions with authorities in the Soviet Union next week. Presidents Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev agreed in July to co-sponsor such a conference.

While Mr. Baker stopped short of specifically saying he will re-

## Kuwaiti charges unfounded, UNIKOM report says

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Kuwaiti allegations that Iraqi forces infiltrated Bubiyan Island and engaged Kuwaiti forces in a firefight last month have been dismissed by a United Nations observer team which visited the area to investigate the incident.

A report given to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM), which patrols the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border under a Security Council mandate after the end of the Gulf war earlier this year, said that a UNIKOM team which visited Bubiyan could not find any evidence that Iraqi soldiers were detained by Kuwaitis after the alleged infiltration incident. Nor could the team find any evidence of movements by Iraqi ships, the report said.

The report also said that the UNIKOM team could not find any trace of a firefight between Iraqi and Kuwaiti forces as claimed by the Kuwaiti authorities who also said that Iraqi soldiers were detained after the incident.

According to the report, the 45 Iraqis — who Kuwait claimed were members of the Iraqi armed forces — were Iraqi fishermen playing their trade in waters opposite Bubiyan and that none of them was on the island itself.

The report said the UNIKOM mission also could not find any trace or evidence of firearms being aboard the fishermen's boats as claimed by Kuwait; nor was any evidence found of any Iraqi boat hit in the alleged firefight as claimed by the Kuwaitis.

Following a complaint by Kuwait, the Security Council accepted the Kuwaiti version of the incident, brushing aside Iraq's statement that it did not know of such an event, and warned Baghdad. The United States said it was considering the incident as a serious violation of the Gulf war ceasefire terms.

Iraq has suggested that Kuwait had fabricated the incident to justify the emirate's request for continued American military presence and the establishment of U.S. and British bases there.

The U.S. Defence Department said Thursday Washington had agreed with Kuwait to continue "military cooperation," (see page 2).

## Soviet Union grants full independence to Baltic states

Combined agency despatches

THE SOVIET UNION granted full independence to the three Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia Friday as its first act following the destruction of central Kremlin power.

"We have recognised their independence. These republics are now separate from the Soviet Union," Foreign Minister Boris Pankin told a Moscow news conference.

The historic decision, during the first meeting of the country's new ruling state council, came 51 years after they were absorbed by the Soviet Union.

The state council's move crowned a two-year campaign to break away from the Soviet state and marked the first tangible sign of physical disintegration of the 15-republic union once lauded by Communist masters as unbreakable and eternal.

"Gorbachev congratulated me and the whole Estonian state and wished us all success and happiness," said Estonian Premier Edgar Savisaar, who was present at the meeting chaired by President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The success of the Baltic campaign owed much to August's abortive coup by Communist hardliners. The failure of that action broke the back of hardline resistance to independence and effectively destroyed two of the main organisations that held the union together — the KGB and the Communist Party.

Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis, most rigid of the Baltic leaders in his long conflict with Mr. Gorbachev, welcomed the decision in a news conference in his parliament, still barricaded following a bloody army crackdown in January.

"The fact that such a declaration has been made by the present leadership of the Soviet Union is a very joyful and positive action in all respects — not only for Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia but also for the Soviet Union and the entire international community," Mr. Landsbergis said.

The unanimous decision was made Friday by the day-old state council, made up of President Gorbachev and leaders of the Soviet republics.

(Continued on page 5)

A day earlier, the Congress of People's Deputies approved the council's formation as part of a major restructuring of the Soviet government.

The reemergence of the three nations from Kremlin rule capped a 1 1/2-year independence campaign marked by bloodshed, demonstrations and Soviet economic sanctions.

"The state council has adopted a unanimous resolution to grant diplomatic recognition to these republics," Mr. Pankin said.

"We will conduct negotiations on the entire range of issues" relating to separating, including transportation, energy and defence, Mr. Pankin said.

The Baltic states have demanded withdrawal of Soviet troops. They also have demanded the Kremlin's annulment of the 1940 decision to absorb the Baltics, but the state council resolution did not explicitly nullify the absorption, Mr. Pankin said.

The Kremlin will also discuss Baltic states' compensation for Soviet-owned and built property

(Continued on page 5)

## Sahara ceasefire takes effect

RABAT (Agencies) — A U.N. ceasefire took effect Friday in the disputed Western Sahara, the first stage in a plan designed to end 16 years of fighting and let inhabitants choose between independence or Moroccan rule.

The mineral-rich desert territory is claimed by Morocco and the Polisario guerrilla movement, which has been fighting for independence since Spanish colonisers left in 1975 and Morocco annexed the Western Sahara.

A 145-member U.N. contingent from 16 countries was deployed at 10 points around the desert territory as the ceasefire began at 0600 GMT. The first contingent will grow to 240 members and could eventually reach 2,800, including nearly 1,700 troops, in the coming months, at a cost of \$180 million.

The U.N. force will monitor the ceasefire while preparing for a voter referendum in January.

Canadian General Armand Roy, head of the U.N. force's military unit, and Zia Rizvi, deputy to U.N. Special Representative Johannes Manz, were stationed Friday at Ayoun, administrative capital for the region. A Soviet transport plane flew in logistic materials overnight.

Mr. Rizvi met Thursday with Moroccan King Hassan II in Rabat before arriving at Ayoun, administrative capital for the region. The king this week warned U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar that Polisario troops were making incursions despite the impending ceasefire.

The U.N. leader Thursday stressed the importance of respecting the ceasefire, including an end to all military operations and troop movements.

Moroccan Minister of State Ahmad Alaoui, close to the king, on Friday urged the United Nations to "take all necessary steps" to survey the Polisario.

Earlier this week, Mr. Alaoui asked all Moroccans to put aside their grievances and "act as a single man with a single objective: The Sahara is Moroccan. Other problems, economic, social and cultural, can wait."

Fighting flared last month between guerrillas and the Moroccan armed forces who made sorties beyond their defence lines to strike at what Rabat called Polisario infiltrators.

Morocco controls most of the territory.

## Princess Fakhrunisa Zeid laid to rest at Royal Cemetery

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Highness Princess Fakhrunisa Zeid, wife of the late Prince Zeid Ben Al Hussein and mother of Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid, was laid to rest Friday at the Royal Cemetery.

The funeral was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Prince Ra'd and Royal Family members as well as senior officials, including Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, His Majesty King Hussein's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, Deputy Prime Minister Al Saheam and Armed Forces officers.

Princess Fakhrunisa Zeid died Thursday. Flags flew at halfmast in mourning at all ministries, government departments and public institutions Friday.

## DOORS ARE OPEN FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO INVEST IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS IN JORDAN

TCC, the Telecommunications Corporation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, announces that it is the intention of the government to allow the private sector to invest in the telecommunications sector through "revenue-sharing" schemes and special agreements in which the private sector can undertake the responsibilities of financing, constructing, managing, operating and maintaining a number of expansion as well as new telecommunications projects in Jordan in addition to other singular projects and services.

TCC, therefore, invites interested parties in this investment opportunity to attend the meeting (seminar) to be held at the meeting hall at Amman Chamber of Industry on Monday the Sept. 23rd, 1991 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be chaired by His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Transport and Communications for the purpose of presenting and addressing the said intention (policy decision) in an effort to arrive through an active dialogue with the interested parties as to the best methodology and implementation mechanisms to be adopted in Jordan. In light of what has been so far implemented and experienced by some of the developing countries, where one of the most important schemes used has been well known by the words:

"Build — Operate — Transfer" (B.O.T.), which aims at enhancing the role of the national private sector in developing the telecommunications sector as well as attracting foreign investment.

N.B. TCC management prepared a short reading (preamble) on the subject (in English) for the benefit of all interested Jordanian parties to enable them to communicate with Arab and foreign possible partners and investors before the above mentioned meeting in order to obtain some preliminary inputs and responses which could be presented by the parties through the meeting in the hope that they will prove to be useful to arrive at the best formula and methodology for a successful partnership scheme with the private sector in Jordan. The said "preamble" can be obtained from the office of the Secretary of Tender Committee / TCC Headquarter / Tower Building.

Eng. Mohammad Shahid Ismail  
Director General



## U.S., Kuwait to continue military cooperation

WASHINGTON (USIA) — U.S. and Kuwaiti government representatives have initiated a 10-year agreement providing for continued military cooperation in Kuwait in the post-Gulf war era, the Defence Department confirmed Thursday.

"We hope the agreement can be signed formally by both sides later this month," Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams told a news briefing. The agreement was first announced by the Kuwaiti News Agency Sept. 4.

During his visit to the Gulf last May, Defence Secretary Dick Cheney "addressed the issue of enhancing post-war security and stability" in the region, Mr. Williams recalled. Since then, the spokesman said, the United States has been discussing with Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates "such arrangements as access to ports and facilities, pre-positioning military equipment, joint training, and joint exercises."

"The agreements that we're pursuing with the Gulf states," the spokesman told reporters, "discuss the purposes for enhanced cooperation and the conditions for use of facilities and prepositioning. They do not spell out the type and amount of equipment to be prepositioned; those technical details will be worked out in follow-on discussions."

Mr. Williams pointed out that the United States has similar agreements with other nations in the Middle East and Europe. Responding to a question, he stressed that "this does not in any way open the door for permanent military bases in Kuwait."

"As I've said before," he explained, "the president and the secretary have emphasised that we don't seek permanent bases for U.S. (land) forces to operate in the 'Persian' Gulf."

However, he added, "with some nations in the 'Persian' Gulf, we have the ability to station naval forces ... but we are not looking for permanent bases in Kuwait, or permanent land forces anywhere in the 'Persian' Gulf."

Asked to define the purposes of the agreement with Kuwait and the others the administration hopes to negotiate as well, the spokesman replied: "We want to enhance 'Persian' Gulf security and stability; we want to enhance the security of Kuwait; we want to enhance the effectiveness of the Kuwaiti armed forces through joint training and exercises; we want to enhance the ability of the United States to ensure the security of the Persian Gulf by having pre-positioned equipment."

Mr. Williams told questions that U.S. forces in the region presently number about 40,000, including air, land, and sea forces. He said the Gulf military cooperation agreements would not prolong the presence in the region of large numbers of U.S. forces but be noted, "at any given time, there will be more U.S. forces there for exercises, training and that sort of thing than there would have been in the absence of these agreements."

The spokesman said he expects the troops which have taken part in Operation Desert Storm will be out of the region by the end of this year.

## Iranian diplomat fears hostage deal may founder

BEIRUT (AP) — A senior Iranian diplomat accused Friday of blocking efforts to secure the release of Western hostages by refusing to free Arab detainees.

Mohammad Jawad Zamanian, whose country is a key player in the hostage drama, said that Israel, "by not releasing the Lebanese mujahadeen, is obstructing the positive trend in efforts to resolve the issue of the hostages, the Israeli prisoners and those detained by the Zionist entity."

"Hopes for a solution to the hostage issue would fade unless all the Lebanese and Palestinian detainees are released," said Mr. Zamanian, Iran's charge d'affaires and senior most diplomat in Lebanon.

His short statement was published by several Beirut newspapers.

One of the dailies, the conservative daily Al Liwa, also reported that the hostage crisis would "reach a happy ending in the coming months of October and November."

It attributed the information to diplomatic sources whom it did not identify.

"Contacts under way at regional and international levels have achieved major progress in overcoming difficulties that had faced the achievement of a package deal for the swap of the Western hostages, the Israeli prisoners and Arab detainees by Israel," the report said.

Al Liwa has no record of accurate reporting on the hostage issue.

British Television journalist John McCarthy was released on Aug. 8 with a letter from his captors to United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar urging him to mediate a swap of the hostages for Arab detainees.

Three days later, American writer Edward Tracy was freed. But the process was stalled

when Israel insisted on obtaining reliable information about the fate of seven servicemen missing in Lebanon since 1982 before details of swap could be worked out.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar plans to fly to Tehran on Sept. 10 to discuss the hostage crisis with Iranian officials, the main mentors of groups holding most of the 11 missing Westerners — five Americans, three Britons, two Germans and an Italian.

Stanny Mann, the wife of British hostage Jack Mann, who has been held in Lebanon for more than two years, has arrived in London to see Mr. McCarthy.

Mrs. Mann said on reaching Heathrow airport from Beirut that she hoped Mr. McCarthy would be able to give her some news of her 77-year-old husband.

Mr. Mann, a World War II British pilot, vanished May 12, 1989, as he drove to a bank in west Beirut, where the couple lived. He is believed to be held by pro-Iranian Shiite extremists.

"I know he wasn't with my husband at all but I'm just hoping that maybe he may have heard something which might give me some little more hope to go on waiting," she said.

Mr. McCarthy recently has been in living away from public view, adjusting to normal life and meeting with the families of other hostages and friends.

Mrs. Mann said she also hoped to see Foreign Office Minister Douglas Hogg during her stay in London. She met with Mrs. Hogg in Beirut in June.

Al Liwa also predicted that all the Western hostages held in Lebanon would be released in a three-month time.

The newspaper quoted unnamed diplomatic sources as saying the hostage issue would "reach the happy ending in the coming months of October and November."

## 28 hectares of hashish destroyed in Bekaa

BAALBEK, Lebanon (R) — Syrian troops and Lebanese police destroyed 28 hectares of hashish in Lebanon's Bekaa Friday, witnesses said.

Farmers in the area said they were not worried about the crack-down, the first this year. The much more valuable opium poppy crop was harvested two months ago for processing into heroin.

Drug growers said they believed the destruction was symbolic and they would be able to bribe officials to save their crops.

Dozens of troops and police swooped on two areas near Baalbek, 70 kilometres east of Beirut uprooting and burning cannabis plants, from which hashish is made, or bulldozing them under.

Syrian intelligence officers supervised the raid. Tractors and bulldozers were closely guarded.

The Lebanese general prosecutor in the Bekaa Valley issued 100 charges on Friday against suspected hashish growers.

Police have estimated that about 14,000 hectares of the Bekaa are growing hashish and some 1,400 hectares are used for cultivating opium poppies for heroin.

Lebanon and Syria last Sunday signed an agreement to cooperate in fighting the Bekaa drugs trade — a move demanded by the United States as a precondition for aid to Damascus.

The pact has to be approved by a council including Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Lebanese President Elias Hrawi before it takes effect. The council is expected to meet soon.

A kg of raw opium sells for \$200 processed into heroin it can fetch \$15,000 police say. Its street value in the West is hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Syria has about 40,000 troops in Lebanon, which wants to attract international aid to rebuild after 15 years of civil war by moving against the drugs trade and securing the release of Western hostages.

A U.S. official said last month that Syria, despite its support for Middle East peace efforts and the release of Western hostages, would not get U.S. aid or international loans until it cracked down on drugs.

He said Syrian military officers were involved in the drugs trade, which is run by clans in the Bekaa Valley. The growers are protected by private militias or have influential backing.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir claimed Monday that Syrian government officials were involved in the drugs trade.

"Drugs smuggling in our country results mainly from Lebanon where, in the Syrian-dominated Bekaa Valley, drugs are grown, manufactured and distributed," Mr. Shamir told an anti-drugs organisation.

"It is no secret that Syrian government elements have been involved in this illegal enterprise," he added.

## U.S., Japanese companies indicted for sales to Iran

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal grand jury has indicted a Japanese electronics company and a U.S. business for allegedly conspiring to sell aircraft components to Iran.

Japan Aviation Electronics Industry (JAE) Limited was accused of conspiring to illegally transfer to Iran \$7 million in critical navigational components for American-made F-4 Phantom fighter jets.

The 22-count indictment also charged Aero Systems Incorporated of Florida and three of its subsidiaries with participating in the alleged scheme. In addition, five employees of the Japanese

## Afghan rebel group demands Iran apology

PESHAWAR (AP) — Fundamentalist Afghan guerrillas are demanding an apology from an Iranian newspaper that called for the death of their leader, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

In an Aug. 27 editorial, the English-language Kayhan International called for Mr. Hekmatyar's death, saying he and his Hezb-e-Islami (Party of Islam) faction had done more damage to the resistance than the nine-year occupation of Afghanistan by Soviet troops.

A Hezb-e-Islami spokesman, Qutbuddin Filal, said Kayhan never would have published the editorial without the consent of the Iranian government.

"This is state terrorism and against Islamic law," Mr. Filal told a news conference. "The Iranian government has kept quiet on this very provocative editorial."

He said a formal letter of protest had been sent to the Iranian embassy in Islamabad demanding an apology from the newspaper, which is considered close to Islamic hardliners in Tehran.

Mr. Hekmatyar is considered the most opportunistic and the most anti-American of the seven major guerrilla leaders headquartered in Pakistan. Despite his virulent rhetoric against the United States, the main backer of the Mujahadeen guerrillas during the war, Mr. Hekmatyar received the lion's share of weapons because he was considered the most capable of a battlefield victory.

But in its editorial, the daily said, "For the past 10 years, Hezb-e-Islami has caused more casualties upon the Mujahadeen than the Russian or Kabul troops."

"Surely Hekmatyar must be only interested in strengthening and protecting his power throughout Afghanistan in order to safeguard his future selfish interests."

"Now it is crystal clear that he is the one who must be blamed primarily for Afghan disunity and infighting. Thus, sooner rather than later, a brave Afghan should put an end to his disgraceful existence."

Mr. Filal said Mr. Hekmatyar's party would boycott the third round of talks with the Iranian government.

## Iran welcomes collapse of Soviets

NICOSIA (R) — Iran, fearing bad fate for Soviet Muslims, called Friday for fair and equal treatment for all the Soviet Union's breakaway republics.

President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani welcomed the breakup of the communist state structure but voiced concern at the treatment of Muslims.

"We condemn all atheistic systems of government and welcome their collapse," Tehran Radio quoted Rafsanjani as saying in a Friday prayer sermon.

Mr. Rafsanjani said Iran backed the policies of President Mikhail Gorbachev.

"The policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is to respect the will of the Soviet people. Our country in no way intends to interfere," said Mr. Rafsanjani.

"What is important is an equal and just attitude towards independence moves by the republics," Mr. Rafsanjani said.

Iran's Islamic revolution enjoys support among Soviet Union's 50 million Muslims who live in the relatively poorer Asian republics. Blood and cultural links bind Iran to three neighbouring Soviet republics — Muslim Azerbaijan and Turkmenia and Christian Armenia.

Newspaper editorials in Tehran have expressed concern about the contrast between the West's enthusiasm for the independence of the Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia and its relative indifference to independence moves by Muslim republics.

Iran's supreme National Security Council said Tuesday Tehran

## France tells exiled Aoun to shut up

PARIS (R) — France Friday told exiled Lebanese General Michel Aoun to keep quiet after he was quoted as saying the Lebanese people would rise up within a year and eject Syrian troops.

The general arrived in France last week. He was granted asylum on condition that he avoid political statements.

But the magazine Paris Match quoted him Friday as saying of the Syrian presence: "One year, I give them one year. Within 12 months, the Lebanese will rise up and throw out the Syrians and other foreign forces, then organise free elections."

The French Foreign Ministry, responding to his remarks, said: "General Aoun was granted political asylum with the rights and duties that are attached to this condition."

"The French government honours its commitments (granting him asylum). We hope the general will honour his own commitments (to stay silent)."

The general's refusal to remain silent has already sparked a diplomatic incident between Beirut and Paris.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Paris Bouteh summoned French Ambassador Daniel Husson to explain a letter published in Beirut Tuesday in which Gen. Aoun called on the Lebanese to rebel.

France, which is seeking to normalise relations with Lebanon, assured the Syrian-backed government Thursday that Gen. Aoun would stay out of Lebanese politics. The envoy said the letter was a composite of previous statements, not a fresh interview.

Gen. Aoun was allowed to leave the French embassy in Beirut for exile in France on condition he stayed out of Lebanon for five years and did not resume political activity.

"I do not consider myself in exile, simply on a journey...if I am an exile, then all the Lebanese are exiles since the country is occupied by foreign forces and freedom and democracy do not exist," Paris Match quoted him as saying.

## Iran welcomes collapse of Soviets

NICOSIA (R) — Iran, fearing bad fate for Soviet Muslims, called Friday for fair and equal treatment for all the Soviet Union's breakaway republics.

President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani welcomed the breakup of the communist state structure but voiced concern at the treatment of Muslims.

"We condemn all atheistic systems of government and welcome their collapse," Tehran Radio quoted Rafsanjani as saying in a Friday prayer sermon.

Mr. Rafsanjani said Iran backed the policies of President Mikhail Gorbachev.

"The policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is to respect the will of the Soviet people. Our country in no way intends to interfere," said Mr. Rafsanjani.

"What is important is an equal and just attitude towards independence moves by the republics," Mr. Rafsanjani said.

Iran's Islamic revolution enjoys support among Soviet Union's 50 million Muslims who live in the relatively poorer Asian republics. Blood and cultural links bind Iran to three neighbouring Soviet republics — Muslim Azerbaijan and Turkmenia and Christian Armenia.

Newspaper editorials in Tehran have expressed concern about the contrast between the West's enthusiasm for the independence of the Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia and its relative indifference to independence moves by Muslim republics.

Iran's supreme National Security Council said Tuesday Tehran

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Cyprus court frees Nicos Sampson

NICOSIA (R) — The Cypriot supreme court ruled Friday that Nicos Sampson, leader of a 1974 Greek-engineered coup on the island, had been wrongfully detained and ordered his release. Mr. Sampson, 55, was serving a 20-year-term in Nicosia's central prison for the short-lived coup which inspired the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. Turkey still has an estimated 30,000 troops on the northern third of the island where the minority Turkish-Cypriot community runs a self-proclaimed state recognised only by Ankara. The supreme court upheld the former EOKA leader's appeal that 11 years he spent in exile in France should count towards his sentence. Mr. Sampson was jailed in 1976 for leading the coup masterminded by the military junta then in power in Greece. But he served only three years before being allowed to go abroad for medical treatment. He failed to return and went to France. He was rearrested on returning to Cyprus in June last year and to serve out the rest of his term. His lawyers argued that no warrant for his arrest was issued during his exile.

### Israeli cracks U.S. military, bank codes

TEL AVIV (AP) — An 18-year-old Israeli was arrested Thursday on suspicion he cracked foreign bank computers and passed on credit card numbers to American hackers who bought tens of thousands of dollars in goods, Israel Television said. The Israeli, described by computer experts as a genius, also broke into U.S. military computers and built sophisticated equipment allowing him to make long-distance phone calls without getting charged, the report said. The suspect, who was not identified, is a resident of the northern town of Carmiel, the television said. Police raided his home Thursday after the American hackers were questioned and gave his name to authorities in the United States, the report said. The Israeli was released on bail.

### Israel lifts 32-year veil on spy

TEL AVIV (AP) — Thirty-two years after the fact, the supreme court lifted censorship in the case of a Polish Jewish immigrant who worked for Israel's secret service, but was a double agent for Poland, Israel Television reported Thursday. The agent, Levy Levy, was arrested in Israel in 1959, convicted of aggravated espionage and sentenced to 10 years in prison, the report said. It did not say what happened to him since. Mr. Levy had worked for the Polish secret service, spying on Jewish organisations, before he emigrated to Israel in 1948, the television said. Shortly afterwards, he was hired by the Israeli secret service even though the Israelis knew about his past in Poland, the television said. The court decision came in response to a request by the daily Maariv to publish details of the case, the television said.

### Polls to Egypt's ruling party announced

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak has said the governing National Democratic Party (NDP) would hold direct elections for party positions from next month. The NDP would start holding elections in local branches next month and continue up the hierarchy finishing with central party posts next April or May, the Middle East News Agency quoted him as saying. Mr. Mubarak is also NDP party leader. It was not stated whether his position would be offered for election. The NDP was founded in the mid-1970s by former President Anwar Sadat. It controls the vast majority of seats in parliament. Mr. Mubarak said the aim was to increase participation in decision-making and bring fresh blood into the party. Some opposition parties are allowed in Egypt and sit in parliament. But the two major opposition political currents — Nasserites, or Arab nationalists, and Muslim fundamentalists — are banned from setting up their own parties. Mr. Mubarak said in an interview last month he would allow the free formation of political parties once the economic situation had stabilised.

### Romania wants to help in peace process

TEL AVIV (AP) — Romanian President Ion Iliescu, ending a four-day visit to Israel, said Thursday he hoped his country could help get a Middle East peace conference off the ground. "We think this international conference is a good idea, and maybe we can help in this effort to create a favourable climate to make progress," Mr. Iliescu told reporters at Ben Gurion international airport before his departure. Until several years ago, Romania was the only Eastern European country to maintain diplomatic ties with Israel and served as an important mediator between the Jewish state and the Arabs. But Mr. Iliescu said Romania today had a lesser role in peace efforts. "We are not directly involved. It is mainly a matter for the big powers," he said. Mr. Iliescu, who signed an economic cooperation agreement with Israeli leaders during his visit, said Thursday he hoped ties would be further strengthened. "There are many fields of cooperation, and ... we have agreed to cooperate in international forums and exchange information," he said.

### Iranian foreign minister to visit Yemen

SANAA (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati arrives in Sanaa Sunday for his first official visit to Yemen, which sent thousands of volunteers to help Baghdad during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war. A Yemeni official said Friday Mr. Velayati's visit followed one to Tehran by Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani late last year, when the two countries tried unsuccessfully to end Iraq's occupation of Kuwait peacefully. Mr. Velayati attended an Islamic foreign ministers' meeting in Sanaa in 1984. But Sunday's visit will be the first official trip by a senior Iranian official since the Islamic revolution 12 years ago, the Yemeni official said.

### Norwegian foreign minister to visit Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Norwegian Foreign Minister Thorvald Stoltenberg will start a two-day official visit to Turkey on Sept. 12, a Foreign Ministry official said on Friday. He will discuss relations between the two NATO members, international issues and European developments with Turkish Foreign Minister Sefa Gıray.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 73111-19

PROGRAMME TWO  
18:00 Le Chevalier de Labyrinthe  
18:30 ... Thelma  
19:00 ... News in French  
19:15 ... Carnet de Notes  
19:30 ... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ... News in Arabic  
20:30 ... Kate and Allie  
21:00 ... Encounter  
21:30 ... Classical Music  
22:00 ... News in English  
22:30 ... Postcard Film

### PRAYER TIMES

06:50 ... Fajr  
07:50 ... (Sunrise) Dhuha  
12:34 ... Dhuhr  
16:09 ... 'Asr  
18:05 ... Maghrib  
20:17 ... Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Assumption Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

### Terrace Church Tel: 622366

Church of the Assumption Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 623583, Tel. 628543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771391

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772561

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 683326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811255

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair and windy will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Min./Max. temp.  
Amman ... 15/26  
Aqaba ... 21/33  
Dumra ... 15/32  
Jordan Valley ... 20/34

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 27, Aqaba 34. Humidity readings:

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Hisham Kassas ... 790286  
Dr. Youssef Al Fagih ... 679099  
Dr. Khalil Al Jabali ... 740740  
Dr. Ghaleb Zawiada ... 736123  
Firm pharmacy ... 661912  
Pardons pharmacy ... 778236  
Al Asana pharmacy ... 637055  
Nawroth pharmacy ... 636572  
Al Salem pharmacy ... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ... 644945  
Simonsen pharmacy ... 637660

### IRBID:

Dr. Ziad Al Aam ... 661101  
Al Sitaran pharmacy ... (778625)

### ZARQA:

Dr. Hisham Mahmood ... 636381  
Khalaf pharmacy ... 954117

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ... 637111  
Civil Defence Department ... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate ... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ... 630341  
Rescue Police ... 192, 621111, 637177  
Fire Brigade ... 691228  
Blood Bank ... 775121  
Highway Police ... 843402  
Traffic Police ... 891611/15  
Public Security Department ... 63021  
Hotel Complaints ... 605800

### AMMAN Municipality

Complaints ... 787111  
(directory assistance) ... 121  
Overseas Calls ... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone

### Repairs:

Abdali Telephone Repairs ... 623101  
Jordan Television ... 774111  
Radio Jordan ... 774111  
Water Authority ... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ... 63021  
Electric Power

### Company

RJ Flight Information ... 08-53200  
Queen Alia Int. Airport ... 08-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ... 613813/32  
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn ... 644281/6  
Alkheh Maternity, J. Amn ... 644412  
Jabal Amman Maternity ... 642362  
Mafraq, J. Amman ... 636140  
Palestine, Shmeisani ... 664717/4  
Shmeisani Hospital ... 669131  
University Hospital ... 843405  
Al-Musharraf Hospital ... 667279  
The Islamic, Abdali ... 665127/77  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ... 664164/6  
Khalil, Al-Mahgreen ... 777101/3  
Al-Balad, J. Ashrafieh ... 775111/26  
Army, Marfa ... 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ... 622405/50  
Amal Hospital ... 674155

### ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital ... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ... (09)900580  
Jin Sina Hospital ... (09)980732  
Al-Hilma Modern Hospital ... (09) 99598

### IRBID:

Princess Basmah Hospital ... (02)755555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ... (02)722725  
Jm Al Nafes Hospital ... (02)747100

### AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital ... (03)314111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

#### ARRIVALS

##### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

6:25 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)  
6:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
6:55 Damascus (RJ)  
7:05 New Delhi (RJ)  
7:15 Aqaba (RJ)  
7:25 Dhaka (RJ)  
7:35 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)  
7:45 Doha (RJ)  
7:55 Colombo (RJ)  
8:05 Beirut (RJ)  
8:15 Frankfurt (RJ)  
8:25 London (RJ)  
8:35 Paris (RJ)  
8:45 Cairo (RJ)  
8:55 Doha (RJ)  
9:05 Tripoli (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

11:00 Sanaa (IY)  
12:30 Cairo (MS)  
17:50 Rome (AZ)  
22:00 Paris (AF)

### MARKET PRICES

Upptower prices in \$/kg.

Apple ... 700/650  
Banana ... 300/450  
Banana (Mukammur) ... 450/400  
Beet ... 250/200  
Cabbage ... 140/90  
Cauliflower ... 300/250  
Cucumbers (large) ... 200/150  
Cucumbers (small) ... 400/350  
Eggplant ... 250/200  
Garlic ... 1000/900  
Grapes ... 750/650  
Grapfruit ... 280/220  
Lemon (green) ... 300/250  
Lemon (yellow) ... 300/250  
Marrow (large) ... 200/150



## Former University of Jordan president recognised for achievements

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has conferred on the former president of the University of Jordan, Dr. Mahmoud Al Samra, the Jordanian Al Kawthar Medal of the Second Degree in recognition of his contribution towards the development of higher education in the country.

The medal was presented to Dr. Samra by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, at a special ceremony held at Al Hussein Youth City in the presence of the minister of higher education and presidents of the four government universities in Jordan.

In a brief address on the occasion, the Regent voiced his pride in Dr. Samra's achievements for the Kingdom.

There is need to streamline the relationship between the Jordanian community and its needs and the Jordanian universities so that the country might be able to meet future challenges, the Regent said.

He said that coordination and dialogue among the four universities is of paramount importance in the course of developing the



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (right) presents Dr. Mahmoud Al Samra, former president of University of Jordan, with Al Kawthar Medal of the Second Degree (Petra photo).

higher educational process.

Dr. Samra, 65, was president of the University of Jordan between 1989 and 1991. Between

1979 and 1989 he was vice president. He holds a doctorate degree in Arabic literature from London University.

A royal decree last month appointed Dr. Fawzi Gharaibeh as president of the University of Jordan after Dr. Samra resigned.

## Train ride organised to collect donations for charity

By Nur Sati  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Hijaz Railroad was once again revived Thursday for the Seventh Annual Train Ride organised by the Amman Marriott Hotel.

The railroad, which was built during the time of Lawrence of Arabia, left from the Amman station to Daba'a, about 14 kilometres from Queen Alia International Airport. About 310 people participated in the train ride, which was organised for the purpose of collecting donations for charity, specifically the Al Hussein Society.

Although it was not yet known how much was collected this year, Carol Hanna, group operation manager at the Marriott hotel, said the event usually brings in \$10,000.

"The train ride is one of the many activities the hotel organises for charity," Miss Hanna said. "It is the policy of the hotel (internationally) to organise such events."

The three hour trip to Daba'a was met with much excitement from the people. Music, food and drinks provided for a lively atmosphere.

Along the way, local inhabitants stood outside to wave to the passengers on the train. People moved around from one compartment to the other making social calls. Others danced wherever they could find a place. Some people, leaning out of the windows, chatted with their neighbours in the next compartment.

Occasionally, the train made a stop in order to be oiled. Built in 1902, the train has a German engine dating from 1955, according to Miss Hanna.

The railroad runs from Damascus to Aqaba. "But one of the reasons why we stop at Daba'a is because after Daba'a, it is a different railway and we are not allowed to go further," she said.

"What we do is rent the train," Miss Hanna said.

A day before the event, Marriott employees cleaned the train, decorated it and installed what was needed for the trip.

In Daba'a, candle sticks were put on the ground where a visible track at night to the Daba'a Castle, where tables and a buffet were set. Dinner was also accompanied by the Marriott's Polish band and dancing.

Attending the dinner at Daba'a were about 20 handicapped people from the Center for Education and Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped run by the Al Hussein Society.

The center has over 100 boys and girls including young adults who are unable to

attend ordinary schools. It also houses 40 residential students and 15 partially self-supportive youths in sheltered accommodation. The goal of the center is to enable the children fully contribute to Jordan's economic and social life.

"I expected it to be a lot of fun, but I never imagined the setting from the train to the dinner tables to be so beautiful," said a first time rider.

Samer Karadshah, a participant in the train ride, said, "Jordan is a small country. Everyone complains there is nothing to do but sitting in the middle of nowhere (in the desert) is a lot of fun."

"The setting is beautiful," said another participant. "It goes to show that Jordan has a lot to offer but it needs exploiting from the public. I'm having a great time."

According to Ibraheem Toukan, "personally, I enjoy eating and drinking outdoors. The Marriott was very instrumental in organising this event. It is in line with the Marriott's great tradition and well known hospitality."

One participant who had been on previous train rides said that "this is the first time the Marriott runs out of some drinks on the train."

The idea of the train ride, which began seven years ago, was first tried on Marriott employees, Miss Hanna told the Jordan Times.

"Any event we do we try it on ourselves," she said. "This way, we can see what is needed."

Employees sat on the first train with a check list. "Along the way, we wrote down what was missing. For example, toilets in Daba'a, water and soap to wash our hands and so on," she said.

According to a Marriott employee, there will be another train ride at the end of the month because "a lot of people who wanted to participate did not get a chance."

The train ride is one of the major charity events in the country in trying to promote Jordanian tourism, the hotel has also organised a fashion show this week where models from Italy, including Vogue magazine, will visit the country.

"After their show, we are taking a helicopter and flying them to Petra where they will take pictures for Vogue. It is a great opportunity for Jordan to be promoted abroad," Miss Hanna said.

Another possible hotel function, with the help of the Ministry of Tourism and other hotels, is getting the opera of Rome and the chorus of the Academy of Rome, about 200 people, to play in downtown Amman.

"But for now it is not definite," Miss Hanna said.

## Jordan secures delay in implementation by Egypt of visa requirements

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan has secured a one-week delay in the implementation of an Egyptian decision to impose visa requirements for Jordanians travelling to Egypt and is studying a possible reciprocal Jordanian move, officials and informed sources said.

The Egyptian step to revoke the practice of issuing visas to Jordanians upon entry at the border points was supposed to have taken effect Thursday but Jordanian contacts with the Cairo foreign ministry managed to bring about a postponement until Sept. 12.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry, in a meeting with the Jordanian ambassador in Cairo, Nabih Nimer, conveyed its decision to Jordan on Wednesday, Interior Minister Jawdat Ebsoul said Thursday.

Further contacts with Arab League intervention led to the deferment of the implementation of the decision by one week, he said.

Senior officials said the Jordanian Foreign Ministry was studying the implications of the Egyptian move and a possible Jordanian step to impose visa restrictions on Egyptian nationals travelling to the Kingdom.

"Jordan had lifted visa requirements for Egyptian nationals as far back as 1982," a source said.

The Egyptian decision came against the backdrop of a plunge in bilateral relations after the Cairo government launched a bitter attack on a White Paper published by Jordan explaining the Kingdom's position during the Gulf crisis.

Foreign Minister Abdullah Ensour said last week that Jordan did not expect the row to disrupt the Middle East peace process.

The Egyptian decision to impose visa requirements for Jordanians also followed reports in the Egyptian press that police had arrested a group of alleged saboteurs upon their entry to Egypt from Jordan and had "confessed" to planning to launch a rocket attack on American ships in the Suez Canal.

Jordan and Egypt had excellent relations since 1984, when His Majesty King Hussein became the first Arab leader to resume diplomatic ties with Cairo, ending a six-year hiatus which followed the signing of

the separate Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty at Camp David. Jordan was also instrumental in bringing about a full reintegration of Egypt to the Arab ranks since then, culminating with the readmission of Egypt to the Arab League in 1988.

But Jordan's refusal to endorse the anti-Iraq military coalition and Egypt's support for the American-led alliance which ended Iraq's seven-month occupation of Kuwait earlier this year strained relations.

The Jordanian White Paper outlined the Kingdom's position throughout the Gulf crisis and the various stages of its efforts to secure a negotiated rather than a military solution to the conflict.

The White Paper, released in August, suggested that Egypt had played a major role in thwarting a negotiated settlement and this is believed to have infuriated the Cairo government, which has submitted a "response" to the document to the Arab League.

The submission of the "response" for discussion at an Arab League meeting on Sept. 10 was coupled with fierce attacks against Jordan and the person of His Majesty in the Egyptian press.

Egyptian sources said in Amman all Jordanians who hold five-year passports could obtain Egyptian visas immediately upon application from the embassy in Amman for a fee of JD 14,500.

Issuance of visas to holders of two-year Jordanian passports — residents of the occupied territories — will be contingent on approval by the Egyptian Interior Ministry in Cairo, according to the sources.

Egypt has now imposed visa requirements on Iraqis as well as nationals of all Arab countries which Cairo considers as supporters of Iraq. These include Sudan, Algeria, Yemen and Mauritania as well as Jordan.

In another development, reports from Cairo said 11 Palestinians were being held at Cairo Airport, some of them for two months, after being denied entry. Some of them have also been refused entry by other Arab countries while others are considered "security risks" by the Egyptian authorities, according to the reports.

Most of those being held are believed to have come from Kuwait.

Correction

A headline on page 3 of the Thursday-Friday edition of the Jordan Times incorrectly stated that Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Dughmi said returnees would add 200,000 people to Jordan's unemployment list. While the minister

## CAEU headquarters to be moved to Cairo

AMMAN (J.T.) — The headquarters of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) will be moved from Amman to Cairo within three months, according to Industry, Trade and Supply Minister Ali Abul Ragheb, who returned home from Cairo Friday after taking part in the Arab League meetings.

The decision, taken at an extraordinary meeting attended by nine out of 11 CAEU members, provides for the Arab League to offer ample compensation to CAEU employees in Amman. It also calls for the formation of a committee comprising representatives of Jordan, Egypt, Syria, the United Arab Emirates and the CAEU secretary to take the necessary procedures for the move and for payment of the compensation, the minister said.

Some of the CAEU employees, including its secretary general, will be moved to Cairo and their contracts will be renewed, according to the announcement.

Mr. Abul Ragheb held talks with Egyptian ministers and other officials to discuss the question of the move and has reached agreement on a number of steps to be taken in this regard, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Mr. Abul Ragheb held a series of meetings in Cairo with Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Dr. Yusri Mustafa and Minister of International Cooperation Maurice Makramallah to discuss ways of boosting trade between Jordan and Egypt.

Agreement was reached at the meetings to revise the bilateral protocol on trade between the two countries to upgrade its terms, according to Petra.

The operations and activities of the Jordanian-Egyptian Investment and Development Company were also reviewed and the two sides agreed to hold a general assembly meeting to discuss joint projects, according to the agency.

It said that the Arab League has issued statement expressing appreciation to Jordan for hosting the CAEU in the past 12 years during which the Arab League headquarters was not functioning from Cairo.

## Government pledges support for society

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Mamdouh Al Abbadi told a meeting concerned with ways of protecting consumers that the government backs the efforts of the Jordanian Society for the Protection of Consumers.

The responsibility of protecting consumers under the present circumstances is a national one, requiring the cooperation of all citizens, the health minister said at the opening session of the meeting, which was called to make an assessment of the role of various departments that are entrusted with protecting consumers.

It is the responsibility of every citizen, he reported to the concerned government departments and the Ministry of Supply any cheating, manipulation or violation by merchants and others particularly in matters of public safety and food prices offered to consumers, the minister said.

Jordan is currently going through a very critical phase and is facing mounting political and economic challenges, a situation that calls for close cooperation among citizens in matters regarding health consumption and production, the minister said.

Dr. Abbadi also urged concerned government offices to improve the quality of services to the public and to impose stricter control through inspection teams over the local markets.

According to Dr. Mohammad Obeidat, the seminar's rapporteur, the meeting Wednesday was the second of its kind by the society, which aims to provide protection to consumers.

Dr. Obeidat said that the society is trying to establish what he termed psychological stability and social and economic equilibrium within the society's various classes by seeking stricter control on commodities and by protecting consumers from exploitation.

Participants in the seminar reviewed seven working papers dealing with the safety of food commodities in the local market, plans to develop the concerned government authorities in charge of controlling these commodities, the role of medical departments in ensuring safe food for the public and other related topics.

The participants, according to Dr. Obeidat, suggested the enactment of a special law on nutrition and food and the creation of a corporation to be entrusted with providing food supplies in Jordan.

## King prepares to address European Parliament

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Taher Masri has joined His Majesty King Hussein in London in preparation for the King's trip to Strasbourg, France, where he will address the European Parliament.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the King's address in Strasbourg on Wednesday will be important because it will focus attention on Jordan's stand concerning the Middle East problem and current initiatives to establish a just and durable peace in the region.

King Hussein focused attention on regional issues as well as Jordan's stand with regard to the Palestine problem in a wide-ranging

interview broadcast on BBC World Service Wednesday evening.

In the 30-minute interview, the King said that Jordan has offered the Palestinians a Jordanian umbrella, effectively forming a joint delegation to the peace conference expected to be held in October.

King Hussein reaffirmed the national rights of the Palestinian people and said that Jordan demands that Israel should withdraw its troops from the occupied Arab territories in implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242. The King stressed that Arab Jerusalem is an occupied territory seized by Israel

in the 1967 war when it was under Jordanian rule.

At the upcoming peace conference, he said, the Jordanian side to the joint delegation will have to discuss problems with Israel concerning water rights and other issues while the Palestinians can deal with their part and settle issues with the Israelis.

The King stressed that the Palestinians have the right to statehood as much as the Israelis.

He also described his serious doubts about the Arab-Israeli war of 1967 before it began and how his worst suspicions and fears were confirmed when it developed into what he described as a disaster for Jordan.

## Ministry set to implement ban of non-Jordanian drivers

AMMAN (J.T.) — Inspection teams from the Labour Ministry are now doing work beyond regular office hours to see to it that an order by Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Dughmi to ban the entry into Jordan by any non-Jordanian driving a Jordanian truck is implemented.

The order, which is being implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior and the Public Security Department and border police, was taken to give the chance to the Jordanian truck drivers to work, according to Minister Dughmi.

In his announcement of the ban, the minister said that the

decision had been taken to stop entry into Jordan of any non-Jordanian driving a Jordanian truck, the police departments have been given strict orders to implement this order.

The minister said that several Jordanian companies had been found to be still employing non-Jordanian drivers in violation of the ministry regulations.

A list of 912 such drivers has been distributed to the border posts in Jordan to help the police to carry out the order, the minister added.

He said that in view of the large number of drivers on the list, some time will pass before there

can be full implementation of the order. Once a non-Jordanian driver has been found, he said, he will be ordered to leave the country immediately.

Mr. Dughmi warned employers and companies that legal steps would be taken against the violators of the ministry's regulation.

In the past week, the minister announced that no teacher at community colleges, schools or universities would be allowed to stay in the country. The measure he said is being taken to open the way for the unemployed teachers, particularly among the returning expatriates to get employment.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Art exhibition by Ibrahim Abul Rubb at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of ceramics by Iraqi artist Saleh Jassid Al Nouri at Alfa Art Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition of native painting, from Germany at Abdul Hameed Shamoun Foundation Gallery.

### FILM

- ★ German film entitled "Mitten im Herz" at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### Prince Hassan congratulates Brazil

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Friday sent a cable to Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello congratulating him on his country's independence day and wishing him continued good health and happiness and the Brazilian people further progress and prosperity.

### Crown Prince conveys condolences

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Friday delegated Irbid Governor Fayez Al Abbadi to convey his condolences to the Khasawneh family over the death of the wife of Amin Khasawneh.

# OPENS TODAY

## For Women Only

# Great Shape

### AEROBICS & WEIGHT MANAGEMENT DANCEWEAR BOUTIQUE

# FAT BURNING BODY SHAPING HIGH LOW

a Fun Aerobic Workout

# LIGHT & EASY

### Latest Techniques

## By American Certified Instructors

### Free Body Fat Analysis Free Gift for First 50 Members

Southern  
Um-Utheina  
Zeid Kurdi Bldg.



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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### Loan on hold!

U.S. SECRETARY of State James Baker appears to have put on hold Israel's request for a U.S.-guaranteed \$10 billion loan to settle new Jewish immigrants in Israel when he ruled out consideration of this deal for the time being lest it interfere with the delicate stage that the peace process has reached.

There is no doubt that this position by Mr. Baker is a step in the right direction even though the secretary of state has attempted to downgrade its impact as a pressure tactic against Tel Aviv's determination to derail the U.S.-brokered peace process by continuing its colonisation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including of course East Jerusalem. At a time when preparations for the projected peace conference have reached a very critical stage, Israeli settlement building on the occupied territories has to be the biggest obstacle to holding the parley. Had Washington taken a different posture on the \$10 billion loan guarantee to Israel, it would have given the Arab side a clear signal that there would be no more Arab land left to trade for peace. In retrospect, even though Mr. Baker has denied any linkage between the peace talks and the loan issue there is every reason to believe that in fact the linkage is organic and there for all parties to see and appreciate.

It was good news last night that Mr. Baker's stance was publicly backed by U.S. President George Bush himself lest Tel Aviv contemplate some hope that it could still drive a wedge between the president and his secretary of state on this matter.

Until the U.S. chief executive fortified State Department assurances that the Israeli request for a multi-billion dollar loan to settle new Jewish immigrants would not be considered for the time being pending the assessment of its impact on the peace process, the U.S. secretary of state's impending visit to area to tie up loose ends was in big danger of being so undermined and weakened that it might have failed before it even began. This is the time therefore for the entire U.S. body politic, including Congress, to speak with one voice on this and other peace-related issues in order to lend more credence to Washington's stated determination to attain honourable and lasting peace in the area. As Mr. Baker's September trip to the Middle East will make or break the peace process, his hands need to be strengthened to the maximum, especially in the aftermath of the Israeli prime minister's refusal Thursday to even suspend the construction of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in utter defiance of U.S. policies on Israel's application for the loan.

At the same time, Washington is called upon to speak louder and act more forcefully and effectively against the usurpation of Arab lands to resettle Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union and elsewhere. Tel Aviv would not have dared to defy international opposition to its colonisation policy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip the way it did had it not detected a weakening of international resolve against the construction of new settlements on Arab lands.

Moscow can also come to the rescue of the fragile peace process in the Middle East by making it unequivocally clear that Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel will not be permitted to proceed before there is a just and permanent settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem. It goes without saying that Moscow and Washington can act in league and hope to achieve solid results — and they should.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

The role of the Arab League came under scrutiny by Al Ra'i Arabic daily which said that serious efforts should be made urgently through its member states in order to save the lives of millions of Iraqis now in grave danger. Commenting on a statement by the Arab League secretary general, Mr. Ismat Abdul Majid, Al Ra'i said the Arabs should not offer the Iraqis mere lip-service but should rather take meaningful steps to end the embargo which is causing a real threat to the lives of millions of innocent people. The Arab League secretary general opened a meeting in Cairo with an address voicing the Arab League's concern over the plight of the Iraqi people and the difficulties they are facing because of the shortages of basic food and medicine resulting from the trade embargo, said the paper. But it added that though the Arabs welcome such development which constitutes only a timid step forward, they consider such statements and traditional words of sympathy among Arabs as meaningless because they can never save the Iraqis from danger. We had hoped to hear a plan for real action on the part of the Arab League to deal with the situation resulting from the embargo on Iraq, not mere words of sympathy which can be of no use to anyone, the paper added. Iraq is not in need of good words of sympathy but rather of food and medicine for its people and other requirements to re-construct its infrastructure, the paper stressed.

A columnist in Al Dustour reflected on the pockets of poverty and hunger in Jordan, and said that no one can deny that at least one million people in the country live under the poverty line as pointed out sometimes earlier by UNICEF. Taher Al Udwan said that it is true that there is much talk nowadays that efforts would be made to deal with the situation, yet nothing is happening simply because concerned government departments have very limited budgets. Unless economic and development projects are initiated and jobs are offered to the unemployed, poverty and need will spread further, the writer noted. He said that the Ministry of Social Development ought to use its total budget for this year to help the needy and the sick; and the rich should be approached to come to the help of the poor through a national campaign to raise at least JD6 million, like the amount collected from the public in contributions during the Gulf crisis; and above all, the government should adopt an emergency budget solely to provide urgent assistance to the very poor, the writer proposed. He said that since Amman is home to most of the people of the country, it has been enjoying most of the basic services, but other areas like the rural regions are deprived of such requirements for living and the farmers and farming in the Jordan Valley which is the backbone of the national economy is being left without proper care.

## Cairo frustrated by fading role in Gulf security

By William C. Mann  
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — With the ruin of Iraq's army, Egypt assumed unquestioned military superiority among the Arabs. But flexing its muscle is proving more difficult than Cairo imagined.

Egypt, one of the United States' staunchest Arab allies, hoped the Gulf war could achieve what earlier efforts had failed to: A new Arab order with a militarily and politically powerful Egypt at its heart.

Those hopes appear to be fading daily as the Damascus declaration, a security agreement reached with Gulf states in the war's immediate aftermath, shows increasingly less substance. Egypt had hoped the agreement would preclude what now appears a certainty — the continued military presence in Kuwait and elsewhere in the region of the United States and other non-Arab foreign powers. Twice last week, Egypt demanded to be consulted on Gulf security arrangements. Foreign Minister Amr Moussa made his country's position quite clear by arguing that the "stability or success" of any security arrangement depends on Egypt's participation.

But as he spoke Tuesday in Cairo, generals from Kuwait, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Bahrain were discussing in Oman the establishment of a Gulf defence force that might, but won't necessarily, include Egyptian soldiers.

And despite Egyptian demands, the only scheduled consultation between the Cairo government and the Gulf states is a long-planned Sept. 10 meeting organised as an offshoot of an Arab League gathering in Cairo.

Egypt expected its heightened prestige in the West to spill over to the Arabs. But history stood in the way.

Regional security was the focus of the Damascus declaration, signed less than a week after the Gulf war ended on Feb. 28. Egypt and Syria agreed to provide thousands of troops as the backbone of a protective force for the oil-rich but militarily weak region.

In return, they would get \$15 billion in financial aid. Almost immediately after the

euphoria among Gulf states over the liberation of Kuwait, they are deeply ambivalent about using Egyptian and Syrian troops for security.

He said, they worry about "who will protect them from their protectors."

The Egypt-Kuwait formula has failed before.

In September 1961, the United Arab Republic of Egypt and Syria sent troops in an Arab League force to protect Kuwait from Iraqi threats.

Syria quit its merger with Egypt and the Kuwaitis prevailed upon President Gamal Abdul Nasser that December to pull his troops out. Kuwait retained the services of soldiers from Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Sudan for another 18 months.

Last week was particularly frustrating for Egyptian policymakers.

The first clashes since the war were reported between Kuwaiti and Iraqi soldiers, an alleged Iraqi incursion on a Kuwaiti island repelled by land, sea and air forces.

Possibly more significant for the Egyptians was the U.S. pledge of an indefinite presence in Kuwait.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

Egypt's ties with the Arabs of the Gulf, its allies in the U.S.-led coalition that defeated Iraq, have reached a "crisis point," Magdi Sobhi wrote last week in the Cairo journal International Politics.

Postwar hopes that Egypt, Syria and the Gulf states might work together toward "a new inter-Arab order" now appear very doubtful, he said.

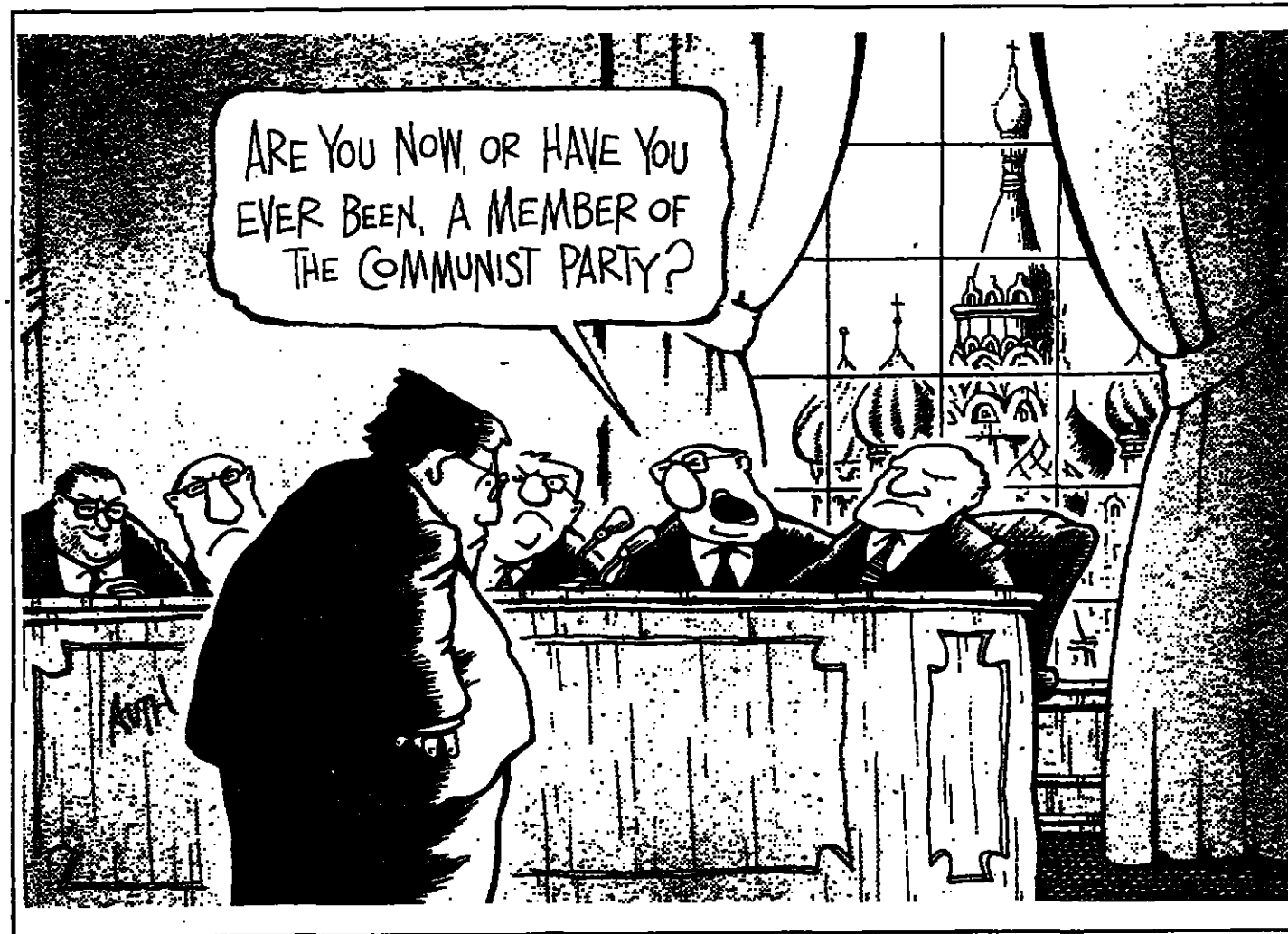
President Hosni Mubarak was a key organiser of the Arab forces that helped end political legitimacy to Washington's leading role in driving Iraq from Kuwait.

signing, trouble brewed. A split among the Arabs, especially over who would protect what, didn't surprise Middle East experts.

Angered by indications Kuwait was turning to the West for protection rather than to its Arab brothers, Mr. Mubarak ordered home all 36,000 Egyptian troops from Kuwait.

Nevertheless, he and the Kuwaitis insist the declaration remains in effect.

Philip Robins, head of the Middle East programme of London's Royal Institute of International Affairs, says that despite the



## British spy Blake clings to communist ideal in Soviet turmoil

By Mark Trevelyan  
Reuters

MOSCOW — As the Soviet Union disintegrates before his eyes and the Communist Party crumbles away, British spy George Blake still clings to the ideal for which he betrayed his country.

The last survivor of an infamous line of British spies who passed the West's secrets to Moscow, he had abandoned hope long before last month's abortive Soviet coup that his adopted homeland was on the road to true communism.

But he shows no trace of remorse for his actions and still cherishes the belief that communism eventually will triumph.

"It was an ideal which, if it could have been achieved, would have been well worth it. I thought it could be, and I did what I could to help it, to build such a society," Mr. Blake, now 69, said in an interview at his Moscow flat.

"It has not proved possible. But I think it is a noble idea and I think humanity will return to it because I think it always has."

Mr. Blake, a former British intelligence officer, was unmasked in 1961 and sentenced to 42 years imprisonment for betraying British agents. He has admitted handing Moscow the names of more than 600 agents but has always denied that any were executed.

In 1966, with the help of two British peace activists, he escaped from London's Wormwood Scrubs prison and was smuggled across the iron curtain to Moscow, where he has lived for a quarter of a century.

"In my first periods here I thought that we were moving forward. I was very naive," Mr. Blake recalled.

"I remember when I came here you could walk into an ordinary restaurant (food store) and just buy a glass of champagne at the counter. I thought: We are on the eve of communism. Here anyone can go into a grocery store and buy himself a glass of champagne."

Mr. Blake laughed: "I thought that Soviet man was a new man — but he wasn't," he said. "Until people can work as hard for the community as they work for themselves, it's vain to hope you can build a communist or socialist society."

Hailed as a Soviet hero, Mr. Blake was decorated with the Order of Lenin and given a comfortable job as a Middle East specialist at a Foreign Affairs Institute in Moscow.

He worked with and befriended Donald Maclean, a member of the so-called "Cambridge group" of spies that also included Guy Burgess, Harold "Kim" Philby and Anthony Blunt. Mr. Philby, the last survivor of that group, died in Moscow in 1988.

Mr. Blake, his Soviet wife Ida and their son Misha, live in a central Moscow flat, spacious by Soviet standards but modest by those of the West. They have a dacha (summer house) on the outskirts of the capital, where Mr. Blake enjoys walking and swimming.

Genial and impeccably polite, he resembles an academic or diplomat as he shuffles about his apartment wearing a tweed jacket and bow-tie.

A fine set of Russian icons graces one wall of his living room, lined with bookcases containing Russian classics, volumes of Balzac and a complete set of Lenin's works. Dutch paintings decorate

the wall of his dining room. Born in the Netherlands, Mr. Blake speaks both English and Russian with a marked accent.

"I thought we were in for a grim time," he says of the attempted headline coup last month that threw the Soviet Union into turmoil.

The failed coup has brought the destruction of the Communist Party as a political force. Independence moves by all but four of the 15 republics are threatening the Soviet Union with disintegration.

"The coup d'etat has brought about a shock that may make it possible to make changes that should have been carried out a long time ago," Mr. Blake said.

"Now, the tooth has been pulled out."

He voiced hope that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Russia's Boris Yeltsin could now work together to reform the country and turn the Soviet Union into an association of sovereign republics similar to the European Community.

"I hope there won't be an upheaval. I hope it will all pass off peacefully. And then I think it's possible... that we will get a sort of mixed economy which will be not unlike what you have in Britain or Holland," he said.

"A society which is in essence capitalist but toned down by social legislation — caring capitalism."

Mr. Blake has dismissed as nonsense British press reports that the KGB security police, under liberal new leadership, will return him to Britain to spend the rest of his life in jail.

"My neighbours were very upset. They offered to hide me," he said with a laugh.

Mr. Blake defended the KGB's record and dismissed suggestions that it's feared and all-pervasive intelligence empire may now be abolished.

"If you have an intelligence service with professional officers and agents in every country of the world, to destroy that and build it up again from nothing makes no sense," he said.

"It was one of the few Soviet institutions which was not corrupt. The KGB was to the Communist Party what the Jesuit Order was to the Catholic Church. It was a highly elite and very select force, and still is. For a very long time, the people in it did believe they were building communism. I don't think they do now, because you must be completely blind to think that."

Mr. Blake believes the KGB, descended from Stalin's NKVD and the Bolshevik Cheka, will survive in some form and keep many of its secrets intact.

"I don't think the archives of the KGB will be opened up. They couldn't be and they shouldn't be, any more than those of (Britain's) MI5 and MI6. It would be a betrayal of the people who worked for them," he said.

"The KGB was an instrument of the party which was there to enforce and punish if people didn't toe the party line... the KGB was there to see that if policies were not carried out, people were pulled up short. Now there's no party, it's the government that runs the country and the KGB like any intelligence service will be the servant of the government, as it should be in a democratic society."

"It may have a different name, that's even very likely. But then, it's had different names in its history all along."

### The week in print

### House comes under fire

THE dominant topics in the media during the past week included the Middle East question, the repercussions in the major developments in the Soviet Union, Jordanian and Palestinian expatriates in the Gulf and a number of domestic issues.

A guest columnist in Sawt Al Shaab said that like the Baltic republics, the Muslim republics in the southern regions of the Soviet Union will be in need of backing in the wake of their independence and, because they are predominantly Muslim, they will naturally be looking towards the Arab and Islamic nations for help.

Jihad Al Momani said that these republics have 50 million inhabitants, some of them are Jews who will be targeted by Israel which would demand their emigration.

The writer said that Arab countries are now called on not only to give mere recognition to the newly independent Muslim republics, but also to forestall any Israeli move that would be detrimental to Arab interests.

Now that the Arabs have lost the friendship of the Soviet Union in the wake of the recent developments worldwide and inside the Soviet Union, the Arabs can at least win the support and friendship of the Islamic republics, said a columnist in Al Dustour daily.

Munes Al Razzaq said that there is need now to develop Arab and Islamic nations' relations with the new independent republics, particularly those that are close to Iran, Iraq and Turkey, whose future is bound to influence that of the Arab and Muslim world.

Al Dostour daily said in an editorial that the Arab and Islamic World should not allow Israel to exploit the situation in the wake of the downfall of the Soviet Union and the collapse of communism there. It said that the debate should prompt the Arab and Islamic governments to initiate strong ties with the Muslim republics and prevent Israel from exploiting them and ensuring the emigration of the Jews to occupied Palestine.

Turning to the Middle East, Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily discussed the coming trip to the region by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

If reports from Washington are true about Mr. Baker's intention to assure the Arab countries that the U.S. administration considers the Golan Heights and Jerusalem as occupied territory, Mr. Baker is bound to achieve success in his coming mission, the paper noted. If such a development occurs, the road to the peace conference and the establishment of a genuine and lasting peace will be paved, the paper noted.

It said that the late announcement by the U.S. administration that it is delaying a \$10 billion loan to Israel was also a positive development. What remains to be seen, said the paper, is Washington's real pressure on the Jewish state to force it to halt its settlement programme and comply with the will of the international community.

If Washington succeeds in convening the peace conference, it would achieve a third victory on the international level, following the aggression on Iraq, which destroyed the main Arab country's military might, and the dismemberment of the Soviet Union, which used to pose the main threat to the West, said a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily.

Mustafa Abu Libdeh said that the United States is now in need of rewriting its foreign policy in light of the developments that happen in less than one year and is in need of proving its credibility by achieving a lasting peace in the Middle East.

The writer believed that Washington's next move in the Middle East is bound to achieve success given the new political realities of the world.

A columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily criticised the Palestinian leadership for relying on Egypt to guarantee a solution to the Palestine problem.

The Egyptian regime has sided with the enemy and the Americans in the aggression on Iraq and in support of the Kuwaiti regime which has been evicting Palestinians and Jordanians and torturing them, Salameh Ektour said. He said that cooperation among the Arab states directly confronting the Israeli enemy is a must but relying on Egypt in the first place can be of no value at the moment.

The writer said that the Egyptian regime returned to the Arab fold only recently for the sake of selling out Palestinian rights in exchange for American economic assistance. Therefore, he said, any Palestinian coordination with the Egyptian regime will be viewed with great deal of suspicion.

Turning to domestic issues, Mazen Al Saket, expressed regret that the Lower House of Parliament, which has just ended an extraordinary session, has not accomplished the minimum of its work on the road to enhance the democratic process in Jordan.

Writing in Al Dostour, Saket said that members of the Lower House are continually facing difficulties in holding meetings or convening meetings of its various committees and achieving little progress in any field.

Furthermore he said that deputies have been absenting themselves from the meetings in a manner that is bound to further complicate the parliamentary process, which in turn reflects badly on its performance.

Taher Al Udwan said in Sawt Al Shaab that the Lower House's extraordinary session achieved very little and cast doubt on the need of convening the session. The writer said that besides giving the new government of Prime Minister Taher Masi a vote of confidence, Parliament has done very limited work concerning the draft laws and amendments to laws.

He said that Parliament sessions were not attended by most of the Parliament members who could have been taking summer leave or were so more interested in discussing topics on the agenda. Such behaviour can only complicate matters for the government and waste the time of the Council of Ministers attending the sessions, he said.

A columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily said that the government should find a way to allow Jordanian universities to absorb a good number of expatriate students. A mere five per cent of the seats in the government universities is not enough to cope with the influx of returnees, many of whom had secured 93 per cent average marks, said Ahmad Al Dabbas.

The writer said that the expatriates, through their hard work abroad and their transfer of funds, contributed to the socio-economic development of Jordan and its institutions, and the time has come for the Ministry of Higher Education to allow the expatriates' children to have the chance to attain higher education.

His views are backed by Fahd Al Faneh in Al Ra'i daily. The writer said that though the presence of the 300,000 expatriates is adding additional burdens on Jordan's infrastructure, the expatriates, with their expertise and their capital, enrich the country's potential.

The writer said it is true that the expatriates increase the population by 12 per cent, but the demographic increase could be very beneficial to the Kingdom since it opens the way for further investments and more economic development.

A columnist in Al Ra'i praised the efforts of the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) for its ongoing efforts to offer training to the unemployed Jordanians.

Ahmad Al Mideh said that training can open the door for the job-seekers to earn a decent living, but there is need now for the employers not to demand that an applicant should have five to 10 years' experience to get a job.



## Regent: Kuwait should compensate returnees

(Continued from page 1)

Why all these pressures on Jordan," the Crown Prince said. "Ultimately (if the pressures continue, we will be) forced into where even if we say yes in name we cannot contribute to the process."

Throughout the interview, the Crown Prince made it clear that he did not view the expected impact on the demographic balance in Jordan — most of the returnees are of Palestinian origin — as constituting a threat to the regime's stability. His main concern, as he repeatedly emphasized, was that the resulting financial strain on Jordan's fragile economy will be the main source of any possible social tensions.

In his opinion, unemployment (according to a recent survey, more than 80 per cent of the returnees are now without jobs) could prove to be the most crucial political problem.

"This (unemployment) is a highly explosive issue," he warned.

The Crown Prince explained that unemployment will turn into an explosive political issue as the returnees, many of whom are highly skilled, will not find an opportunity to develop and use their talents and skills.

But if the returnees are provided with the chance to employ their entrepreneurial talents and skills they will in effect be a major factor of stability for the country.

The Crown Prince basically disagreed with the theory that the returnees would automatically turn to political or religious extremism as a result of despair.

He refused parallels being drawn between the returnees and the Palestinian refugees who came to Jordan after the creation of Israel in 1948 and the 1967 war, in terms of political extremism associated with Palestinian destitution at the time.

"Most of them (the returnees) are middle class; and frankly to characterize them as the third migration — i.e. equate them with 1967 misery, nihilism and extremism — I think is a little bit quick and possibly wrong," he argued. "I mean these are entrepreneurs who contributed to stability of one of the most vital economic regions in the world — the Gulf."

"If their talents are recognized... and are allowed to be developed in a situation of stability, I think they can contribute effectively to the stability of Jordan."

But if Jordan continues "to be punished" and consequently the returnees' talents are frustrated then the issue can be very explosive, he warned.

The Crown Prince resented and dismissed suggestions that the fact that the majority of the returnees are Palestinian might play a negative effect on national unity or the political and social fabric of the country.

"I personally abhor such provincial thinking... I am not concerned with what percentage is of which origin or background... or whether they have lived with us or have not lived with us," he said.

Reiterating calls made by His Majesty King Hussein for Arab states to provide dual nationality for Palestinian and Arab expatriates, the Crown Prince stressed that the whole issue is linked to and hinges largely on finding a solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict in a way that will also take into account the limited resources in the region.

"In the end, politically speaking, it is very clear that Jordan, the West Bank, Israel and Palestine cannot absorb all of the Jewish migrants of the world nor all of the Palestinian migrants of the world," he said.

In the interview the Crown Prince also indicated that the emerging situation in the post-Gulf war era and the prevalent Western and Gulf states' policies indicate that countries like Jordan, which are not part of the political set-up, will pay the price.

He cautioned that the post-Gulf war set-up in the region, including the new security arrangements, will be at the expense of those who are trying to pursue an independent line and are not part of the emerging economic and security pacts.

"We are habtab jahanam (the hell's woodfire)," he said.

## British aristocrat, respected negotiator, to head Yugoslav talks

LONDON (R) — Lord Carrington, a British aristocrat-politician named on Tuesday to head a Yugoslav peace conference, earned a reputation as a cool negotiator in talks to end Rhodesia's guerrilla war and as chief of NATO.

European Community (EC) foreign ministers decided that he was the best man to preside over the conference, confirming his position as an international statesman of wide experience.

Lord Carrington, 72, sixth in a line of hereditary barons, has served in a variety of ministerial posts, including defence and foreign affairs, under every post-war British Conservative prime minister.

While secretary-general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation from 1984 to 1988 he worked hard to improve U.S.-European relations.

As foreign secretary, Lord Carrington was at the height of his prestige in Britain when Argentina seized the Falkland Islands

colony in the south Atlantic in April 1982.

He resigned amid recriminations that Britain was taken unawares and publicly accepted some of the responsibility for what he called a national humiliation. An inquiry later cleared him of any blame.

He had been appointed foreign secretary by the then Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher after the Conservative Party's victory in 1979.

He quickly won a place in history when he negotiated an end to the guerrilla war in Rhodesia, paving the way for the former British colony's independence as Zimbabwe in 1980.

His deft chairmanship of the 15-week London peace conference on Rhodesia drew wide praise and he was suggested as a candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize.

His skills will be put to the test at the Yugoslav peace talks, due to start on Saturday, after more than two months of violence in

which nearly 400 people have been killed, mostly in clashes between Croatian forces and Serbian guerrillas.

As NATO's secretary-general, Lord Carrington faced a fresh challenge on the East-West balance in conventional arms and an internal debate over the security implications of a U.S.-Soviet nuclear arms deal.

His ability as a communicator and conciliator were fully tested after the 1986 Iceland superpower summit which suddenly raised the prospect of a breakthrough on an agreement cutting intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

Lord Carrington has also turned his hand to the arts, becoming chairman of the trustees at London's Victoria and Albert Museum and chairman of auctioneers' Christie's International.

He has served on the boards of ANZ Bank, Hollinger group, Rio Tinto Zinc and Schweppes and is co-president of the London-based Royal Institute of International

Affairs.

His name was put forward in May to head all-party talks on Northern Ireland, but he was rejected by unionist politicians, who alleged he was in favour of a united Ireland.

Peter Alexander Rupert Carrington was born on June 6, 1919, and on the death of his father in 1938 inherited family estates and a title created in 1797.

He was educated at Eton, Britain's most exclusive private school, and Sandhurst Military Academy. He joined the elite Grenadier Guards and was decorated with the Military Cross as a tank officer in World War II.

As a hereditary peer in the House of Lords (Upper Chamber of Parliament) he never had to seek election, thus avoiding the verbal brawling of the Lower House of Commons.

He was Britain's high commissioner (ambassador) in Australia from November 1956 to October 1959 and defence secretary under Prime Minister Edward



Lord Carrington

Heath from 1970 to 1974. A political colleague once said of him: "He's a bit disdainful and never really friendly. He does feel superior."

Despite his old-world courtesy, Lord Carrington was regarded as an astute operator. Former U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig was once said to have called him a "diplomatic bastard."

But he could handle criticism, often joking that his position as NATO secretary-general was "mid-Atlantic — cold, wet and lonely."

He is married with two daughters and a son.

## Bush asks Congress to wait on Israeli request for \$10b loan

(Continued from page 1)

turn to the Middle East after visiting Moscow and the three newly independent Baltic states, he reminded reporters at a Sept. 4 State Department news conference that it has always been his view that "at least one more trip" to the region would be required to "tie up some outstanding issues" concerning assurances.

Mr. Baker also asserted the U.S. hope that the revolution underway in the Soviet Union will remain democratic and peaceful.

He emphasized, however, that "building democracy and free markets across the Soviet Union is not going to be an easy task after decades of totalitarianism and central planning."

"I got to the Soviet Union with a four-part agenda," he said.

"First, I will convey to Soviet leaders and to the Soviet peoples the five principles that will guide this administration's approach to political change in the Soviet Union. However, on this overall question, let me be very clear: 'The Baltic states have always been, and they remain, a special and, indeed, separate case for the United States. We never recognized their incorporation into the Soviet Union. To us, they have never been Soviet republics, but instead separate states for whom

we helped keep alive the promise and diplomatic symbols of independence."

"With respect to the Middle East, it has always been my view that following the August break there should be at least one more trip to the Middle East in order to try and tie up some outstanding issues with respect to the assurances process. We are engaged in dialogue with Israel, with Palestinians, with Jordanians, and will be engaged, I'm sure, in dialogue with Syrians with respect to certain assurances. We've made a lot of progress since I was last in the Middle East — the team that we sent out here. We still have some issues that are open. It would be my hope in going to the Middle East that may be we could close those gaps even a little bit more because I think — as you heard me say before, I really think there is an opportunity here to create an active peace process, perhaps the best opportunity we've had in a long time."

"With respect to the question of the (\$10 billion) loan guarantees, let me first say that the administration remains fully committed, as we have since we came to office, to helping Israel successfully absorb Soviet immigrants. And we have been instrumental in helping improve

and increase the flow of those immigrants to Israel.

"We hope and expect and believe that the Congress will give us the time we need to study and further explore this request and deal with it in the manner that it deserves. It is a very substantial request, the \$10,000 million principle amount, and we have ongoing now some very sensitive diplomatic efforts, as I've just mentioned, that present us with a rather historic opportunity, I think, to achieve something. And we want to deal with this and all other issues that come before us between now and the time that Arabs and Israelis might have an opportunity to sit down together in direct negotiations. We want to deal with those issues in a way that does not undercut that opportunity."

"Let me say one more time what I said at the beginning. We are firmly committed to helping Israel successfully absorb Soviet Jewish immigrants."

"We're in a very sensitive stage. We want a little bit of time to review this request, to look at such questions as the one that's just been raised here, and what

the impact might or might not be vis-a-vis the peace process. We will want to do that. That's not drawing a linkage. I'm not suggesting that there's not some relationship. There will be an impact."

Commenting on the secretary's Middle East itinerary, spokesman Richard Boucher said the final arrangements for Mr. Baker's meetings in Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Syria have not been finalized. The trip will be Mr. Baker's seventh to the region since the end of the Gulf war. He will return to Washington Sept. 20.

The spokesman said U.S. officials were aware of the fact that the Jewish holy days occur during much of the coming two weeks, adding, "I'm sure we'll work out arrangements that meet the needs of both sides."

Mr. Bush and Mr. Baker were joined in their Oval Office meeting Friday by National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft and Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger and White House Chief of Staff John Sununu.

Mr. Bush also reiterated that he was not linking the loan guarantees to Israel's continued practice of expanding settlements

in the Israeli-occupied territories over U.S. objections.

"This is no time to inflame the passions on both sides," he said.

Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont, an influential Democrat, said Congress should delay action on Israel's request until late this year or early 1992.

Prime Minister Shamir said Friday he expected the United States to approve the loan guarantees, but insisted there would be no change in settlement policy in the occupied territories.

Sen. Leahy, whose appropriations subcommittee handles foreign aid, was among the first allies enlisted by the administration on the loan issue.

"I agreed very definitely with the president that he was the best chance for peace in the Middle East now. Let's focus all our attention on that, and on the foreign aid bill afterwards," the senator said in a telephone interview Thursday.

Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy said the Jewish state would live on bread and salt rather than compromise its "security" for U.S. aid.

## U.N. chief suggests mechanism for Iraqi sales

(Continued from page 1)

Western diplomats said it was unlikely the council would approve a higher amount than \$1.6 billion. They said Iraq still has not fully disclosed its own domestic cash and gold which could finance humanitarian purchases.

The sale — already authorised — would take place in three equal installments over six months.

Western diplomats emphasized that the sale is a one-time proposition and that economic sanctions against Iraq will remain in place until Iraq fully complies with the April 3 ceasefire resolution that ended the Gulf war.

Iraq has denounced U.N. supervision of the oil sale as a violation of its sovereignty.

Iraq must contribute 30 per cent of any oil revenues to a fund to compensate victims of its invasion of Kuwait. It also must finance the U.N. cost of eliminating Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, demonstrating the Iraq-Kuwait border and other post-

Gulf war operations.

In Baghdad, the head of a U.N. team inspecting Iraq's stocks of chemical weapons said Friday he wanted to discuss some of its findings with Iraqi authorities.

Johan Santesson, a Swedish World Health Organisation official, said his 26-member team had inspected seven chemical weapons sites since beginning its mission last weekend.

Asked if the team had found any weapons not previously declared, he said: "We have found some things which we will have to consider and discuss a little bit, but our main interest has been in verifying the Iraqi declarations of chemical munitions at various sites."

Mr. Santesson added: "The Iraqi government has disclosed a number of chemical weapons in the United Nations. The number of chemical weapons they disclosed increased with each new declaration and whether Iraq possesses further chemical weapons that they have not declared, I can't say. I sincerely hope by now that they have declared all their pos-

sessions."

Asked what the new findings were that needed discussion with Iraqi authorities, he replied: "I cannot elaborate on that before I report to the executive chairman of the United Nations Special Commission."

Mr. Santesson's team was the third chemical weapons inspection mission to Iraq under the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire, which orders Baghdad to destroy all its weapons of mass destruction.

A fourth chemical mission, which spent four days supervising the destruction of thousands of bombs and shells designed to carry chemical warheads, left on Thursday.

A fourth ballistic missile inspection team arrived in the Iraqi capital Friday for a week-long stay.

Tom Brock, head of the 17-member group, said his mission was to inspect sites in western Iraq from where Scud missiles were fired at Saudi Arabia and Israel during the Gulf war.

A third such mission last month examined Iraq's project to build two "superguns"

## Moscow grants independence to Baltic states

(Continued from page 1)

in the three countries. He did not mention a figure.

Baltic leaders took advantage of the power vacuum created by the failed hardline coup of Aug. 18-21 to step up demands for international recognition of their sometimes violent independence drive.

All but five of the 15 Soviet republics have declared independence.

On Monday, U.S. President George Bush recognised the Baltics. About 50 countries have also extended recognition since the coup.

Senior American and British envoys reestablished diplomatic

links in the Baltics Wednesday, joining a bandwagon that has brought dozens of top Western officials there since the coup.

The United States, Britain, France and other Western countries never officially recognised the forced takeover of the Baltics but had withheld formal recognition out of consideration for Mr. Gorbachev, who had opposed it.

Josef Stalin's Soviet government had signed a non-aggression pact in 1939 with Adolf Hitler's Nazi Germany, including a secret protocol placing the Baltics and parts of eastern Poland in the Soviet sphere of influence.

Soviet annexation of the Baltic republics came a year later.

The renewed quest for freedom

began when Lithuania declared independence on March 11, 1990, after the country's first truly free elections brought a secessionist government to power. Mr. Gorbachev called the declaration illegal and imposed an embargo on oil, natural gas and other critical supplies to the tiny republic for several weeks.

Latvia and Estonia quickly followed along the road to independence but pursued a less confrontational path. Instead of declaring immediate independence, they announced their intention to secede after an undefined transition period.

In a crackdown last January, more than 20 people were killed in the Lithuanian capital of Riga.

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# Connors reaches U.S. Open semis

NEW YORK (AP) — Jimmy Connors didn't need a miracle to reach the semifinals of the U.S. Open, just a psyched-out opponent who cracked under pressure and let him steal the match at the net.

Connors methodically took apart Dutchman Paul Haarhuis 4-6, 7-6 (7-3), 6-4, 6-2 Thursday night before another frenzied crowd of nearly 20,000 fans. He became at age 39, the oldest semifinalist since Ken Rosewall in 1974.

But Connors will have to play a higher grade of tennis to get past his next opponent, French Open champion Jim Courier, who knocked off his friend and willing foil, Pete Sampras, the brooding defending champ.

Ivan Lendl, a master of his own universe in five-set epics, is just as happy after knocking off Wimbledon champ Michael Stich to reach the semis here for the ninth time in 10 years.

Connors, a wild card tournament entry who is ranked 174th in the world, reached that round for a record 14th time and is two victories away from his sixth open title. The last player to win as many as six opens was Billy Tilden, who won his seventh in 1929.

"Is this for real?" Connors wondered aloud as his achievement sank in. "I can't describe this to you, the highs, the lows. I'll take six months before I can tell you what happened here, and it's not over yet."

Haarhuis, who beat top-ranked Boris Becker in the third round, dominated an unsettled Connors early in the first set, then backed off and allowed him to take control.

Retreating totally to the baseline, Haarhuis ceded the net to Connors and eventually made more and more errors on ground-

strokes as the pressure from Connors and the crowd grew.

"I've learned that I can't stay back time after time. It will wear me out," Connors said.

Haarhuis said Connors bothered him more than the crowd.

"I had a chance in the second set to serve it out," Haarhuis said. "He's shown this week that he's come back many times. It was a mistake for me to let the second set go. I started making too many errors."

Connors turned the match around at a most propitious moment, after he was broken at love and trailed 5-4 in the second set. Haarhuis then served for the set, but at 30-40 seemingly intimidated Haarhuis hit four weak overheads of desperate lobs by Connors before Connors ripped a lunging backhand past him for the break.

The crowd stood and gave Connors a thunderous ovation, then roared some more when he held and pushed the set into a tiebreaker. When Connors won the tiebreaker on a hard forehand at Haarhuis' chest, and Haarhuis tapped back a self-defense volley into the net, the match was even at one set apiece but virtually everyone knew that Connors had turned it around and was heading toward victory.

"That was the point of the match that turned the whole tide," Connors said. "In the third set, I started seeing everything. The balls were looking like basketballs. I saw the ball as well as I've ever seen it."

Connors said that as the match wore on he could see the fear in Haarhuis' eyes and his stride shorten, and said to himself, "let's get it over."

If Connors is pleased with himself, Courier is no less so. There is no pressure; no wor-

rying for Courier, even if the scrappy young Floridian does feel like a total foreigner in New York. For Sampras, there is only blessed relief from the burden he felt he carried since becoming the youngest open men's winner a year ago.

Courier, 21, the surprise French Open champion over Andre Agassi, ascended to the top rank of the new generation of American men's players with a 6-2, 7-6 (7-4) victory over Sampras.

Lendl, 31, remained the leader of the older generation of players with a 6-3, 3-6, 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-1 win over Stich that put him into the semis against Stefan Edberg. "I couldn't get the tiebreaker out of my mind, and I just gave it away," Stich said. "I gave it to him on a plate, and he took it. I choked a bit on the important points."

Lendl, who won a five-setter in the first round and two four-setters along the way, pounced on Stich in final set of a match that was suspended by rain Tuesday night with Lendl losing 4-3, 40-15, on Stich's serve in the third set.

Courier, the only men's semifinalist not to drop a set in five matches, took target practice at Sampras with forehands that seemed shot out of a cannon and serves that kicked by for 14 aces, including the winning points in the first and second sets.

Seles, Capriati face off for No. 1 spot

Only Jennifer Capriati stands between Monica Seles and No. 1. The two teenagers battle Friday for a spot in Saturday's U.S. Open final. Seles would regain the top spot in the computer rankings by being in the final, whether she wins or loses. The other semifinal

pits No. 1 Steffi Graf against four-time champion Martina Navratilova.

Seles, the No. 2 seed, is seeking her third Grand Slam tournament this year, having won the Australian Open in January and the French Open in June. She skipped Wimbledon, citing an injury.

"I lost to Jennifer a few weeks ago, so ... I would definitely play a little differently than I did there," the 17-year-old Seles said. "I just have to go out there and really play my game."

"I am just really going to have to go for winners to win a point, not wait for them to make the mistake."

This is the first U.S. Open semifinal for Seles, but her ninth Grand Slam singles semifinal. Since turning pro in February 1989, the Yugoslav has won three grand slam titles — the 1990 French Open and the two this year.

At 15 years, 5 months, Capriati is the youngest U.S. Open semifinalist since Andrea Jaeger (15 years, 2 months) in 1980. It is her second trip to a Grand Slam semifinal, reaching that round at Wimbledon in July when she defeated Navratilova.

"Every match gets tougher," Capriati said.

The two youngsters have played three times, with Seles holding a 2-1 lead. But Capriati won their last meeting, in the final of the Mazda Classic last month.

"I am going to try to play like I did against her in San Diego," Capriati said. "I am going to try to be aggressive and really go for it, and do the same on her serve."

Graf, 22, a two-time U.S. Open winner, has been beset the last two years by injuries, a series of losses and a lack of concentration.

Following her third Wimbledon championship in July, Graf



Jimmy Connors

suffered a torn shoulder muscle that sidelined her until the U.S. Open began nearly two weeks ago. And the matches now are tougher than when she was winning everything in sight.

"I think people had an attitude, sometimes, going into the match, not really believing," said Graf, who no longer is considered invincible. While she has yet to

drop a set in this year's tournament, she had two battles early: Beating Eva Sviglerova 6-4, 7-5 and Judith Wiesner 7-5, 6-4.

Now comes Navratilova, who is seeking her fifth U.S. Open singles title, but her first since 1987.

"I haven't played a serve-and-volleyer in a long time," Graf said. "But I think it is more up to me, what I am going to do out there."

## Atkinson is set to make changes at Aston Villa

LONDON (R) — Aston Villa manager Ron Atkinson is set to make changes to his side for Saturday's English first division game with Tottenham Hotspur at Villa Park.

Atkinson was furious after Villa slumped to a 1-0 home defeat against Crystal Palace Wednesday, a result which means they have taken just one point out of the last nine.

"After the events of Wednesday night I might well decide it is time to make changes," he said.

"I would not have been so concerned if the 1-0 defeat had come on the back of a few decent performances — but that was not the case," added Atkinson, who took over at Villa during the close season.

Trinidad and Tobago international Dwight Yorke is likely to return to the Villa starting line-up

after being left out of the last two games.

But Villa will be unable to recall Dalian Atkinson, the former Real Sociedad striker, who is still troubled by a hamstring injury.

Crystal Palace striker Ian Wright, celebrating an England call-up, will hope to extend his recent goalscoring run at Everton Saturday.

Wright was added to the England squad for next week's friendly with Germany after an ankle injury forced Sheffield Wednesday's David Hirst to withdraw. Wright has scored in the last three games to help spur Palace, who finished third last season, to three successive wins.

League leader Manchester United is expected to recall 17-year-old winger Ryan Giggs against Norwich City.

## Yeltsin sees all-Soviet sports team at Barcelona

MOSCOW (R) — There could be an all-Soviet Union team at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics despite the rapid break-up of the country into more or less separate republics, Russian President Boris Yeltsin said Friday.

"I think there should be a combined team for the country," Mr. Yeltsin said while appearing with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in a live television link-up with the United States.

"Despite the independence of, say, the three Baltic republics, they participate in our combined teams, and I think that they will also take part in the Olympic Games," said Mr. Yeltsin, leader of the largest and most powerful republic in sporting as well as political terms.

"Russia in no way lays claim to put out a separate team," he added.

## Soviets set for medals sweep at gymnastics meet

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (R) — Although the Soviet Union is once again set to dominate the world gymnastics championships, most attention will be focused on the South African team in the coming week.

The championships, which start Saturday, will be the first in an Olympic sport to include South African athletes since the republic began dismantling apartheid this year.

"For a long time now we have wanted to welcome all nations into our world competitions," said Yuri Titov, president of the International Gymnastics Federation. "This is overdue."

South Africa will not field full teams, but its gymnasts — four women and two men — are eligible to compete for individual honours.

"We will take great experience from these games no matter the results," said team chief Kobus Smeesters, who agreed they were unlikely to take home any medals.

The Soviets, meanwhile, are expecting a large haul. Soviet

gymnasts swept gold medals in team and all-around competitions at the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul and the 1989 World Championships in Stuttgart.

"We feel that our team is at the peak physical condition of the sport," said Leonid Arkaev, head trainer of the Soviet men's team, "though the disruptions in our country may have caused minor lapses in mental preparation."

The Soviet men are virtual certainties to win Tuesday's team final and Thursday's all-around

competition may also turn into a Soviet intra-squad contest.

Not since 1974 has a Soviet man failed to win an all-around title at a World Championship or Olympic Games at which the country competed.

Igor Korobchinski returns to defend the world title he won in Stuttgart. Goodwill Games champion Vitaly Scherbo and World Cup champion Valery Belenki are his biggest threats.

Valeri Lukin has performed inconsistently since winning the Olympic silver in Seoul.

## Senna takes provisional pole at Italian GP

MONZA, Italy (R) — World Champion Ayrton Senna claimed provisional pole position for Sunday's Italian Grand Prix when he outpaced his nearest rival Nigel Mansell by just two-tenths of a second Friday.

Senna, who leads this year's title race by 22 points, steered his McLaren round the high-speed 5.8 km Monza track in a best time of one minute and 21.114 second

midway through the hour-long session.

Briton Mansell, who desperately needs a victory this weekend to keep alive his challenge to Senna, was second-fastest in a time of 1:21.328 which he clocked in his spare car and, after a lap beset by unexpected problems.

The worst of these was when the World engine of the Lola of Japan's Aguri Suzuki blew up in

front of him, depositing oil on the track as Mansell approached the chicane.

The Englishman had to drive through a screen of dust and smoke and survived a few very scary seconds at high speed before continuing his lap.

"It was a nasty moment," he said afterwards.

Senna's McLaren team mate Austrian Gerhard Berger was

third-quickest in 1:21.360 ahead of Riccardo Patrese of Italy in the second Williams who clocked 1:21.619.

Frenchman Jean Alesi, in a Ferrari, encouraged the Italian team's army of local supporters by clocking the fifth-best time of 1:21.956 with his team mate and fellow-Frenchman Alain Prost sixth behind him in 1:22.080.

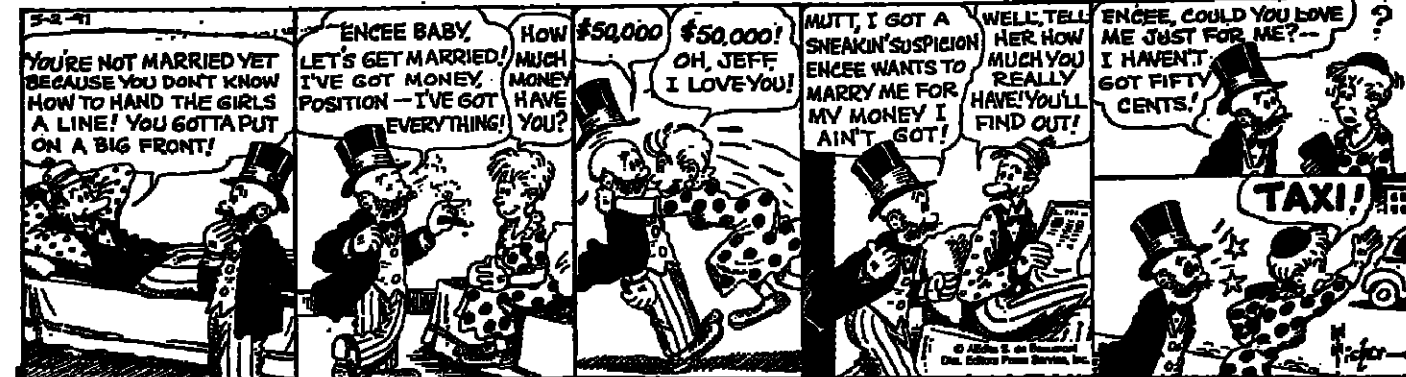
## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff



## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Caral Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Mostly every one will be in a practical frame of mind this Moon in Virgo Saturday wanting to make the changes in their lives that will allow for a more prosperous and abundant existence.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Until mid-afternoon some outside matter can be delayed or cause you deep concern but the evening is beautiful for doing most anything that you wish.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) This is your time to show you can stick to the plan of action you have already organized the evening when you can get off to new areas.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Now you can really value and appreciate your ability to understand what is expected of you and gain greatly by showing good friends how much you admire them.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) A day when much that is apt to disturb you comes into the open until the evening when you can go out on the town and have some fun.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) This is your time to spend the day ridding yourself of limitations or obstacles and then you find tonight you have the inspiration to gain aspiration and be happy.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Stick to that course you decided for today and don't let your-

self be sidetracked by anything that glitters and tonight you can have a very agreeable time.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Whatever you would like to do that means pleasing one of your family is much better during the daytime than going off on some jaunt with friends.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Whatever you have in mind demanding routine attention should be gotten out of the way during the day time so you can relax and have some fun tonight.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Make a point to avoid spending on some silly articles and make your surroundings more attractive and appealing to entertainment.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) You are able to find the personal treatments that bring out your charm early, then later make a point to relax and entertain happily at home.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) There are some highly inventive means by which you can benefit if you spend the day time preparing for the future, then tonight get out with close companions.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Be charming to friends even though they seem to be in the dumps during the daytime but tonight you can see ways and means to have more income.

## THE BETTER HALF

By Barnes



"How about an extra dollar ... after all, it is for your birthday present."

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles. One letter is expected, to form four ordinary words.

FRASC

BEESO

ROHORR

SYPEDE

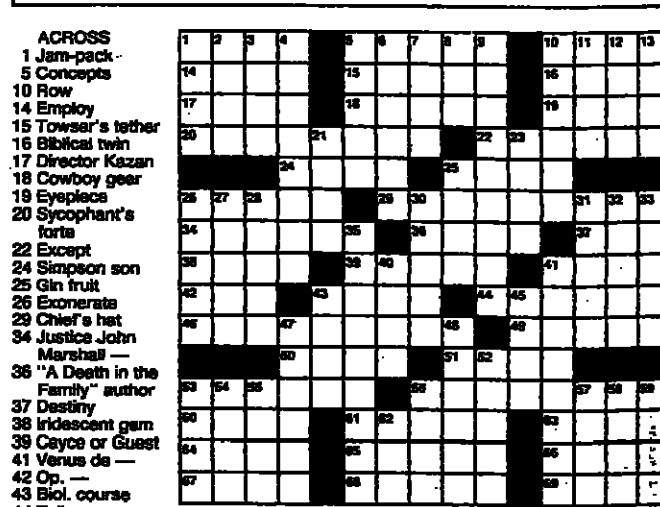
Answer here: THE

Answers tomorrow

Saturday's Jumbles: TWILL SCOUR FINERY CYMBAL

Answer: A debutante is a woman who is expecting to meet this — A "FRANCE"

## THE Daily Crossword by Diane C. Baldwin



- ACROSS**
1. Ten-pack
  2. Conspira
  3. Row
  4. Employ
  5. Tower's topper
  6. Biblical twin
  7. Director Kazan
  8. Cowboy gear
  9. Sycophant's tort
  10. Except
  11. Simpson son
  12. Gin fruit
  13. Exonerate
  14. Chief's hat
  15. Justice John
  16. "A Death in the Family" author
  17. Destiny
  18. Iridescent gem
  19. Cayce or Guest
  20. Venus de
  21. Op.
  22. Biol. course
  23. Tail
  24. Bowling counterpart
  25. Pappas
  26. Conspira
  27. Major
  28. Schedule
  29. Conservators
  30. Lug
  31. Christmas tune
  32. Own
  33. New Year's
  34. Sinner
  35. Wed in haste
  36. Kin
  37. Headliner
  38. Filled to the brim
  39. Square
  40. Highway
  41. Bank employee
  42. "Is this a dagger which —"
  43. (Macbeth)
  44. Rooms
  45. Ado
  46. GWTW spread
  47. Sump
  48. Heretic tale
  49. Wheel wedge
  50. Rabbit fur
  51. Muse of poetry
  52. Golf score
  53. Leave out in pronouncing
  54. Wise laughier
  55. "Linda Tom's Cabin" author
  56. Beady items
  57. Kind of race
  58. Out basely
  59. Managed
  60. Snake sound
  61. Hub
  62. WWI site
  63. The scene paper
  64. NT book
  65. Lope or counter
  66. Menu words
  67. Jog
  68. Foot feature
  69. Always
  70. Transmitt





## Fighting flares in Croatia on eve of peace talks

BELGRADE (R) — Ethnic violence raged in the breakaway Republic of Croatia Friday despite European Community (EC) warnings that more fighting may sabotage a peace conference on Yugoslavia.

EC envoy Henri Wijnandts and Yugoslavia's collective presidency tried to save the talks, set to begin in the Hague Saturday with the participation of the presidents of the six feuding Yugoslav republics.

But appeals for a ceasefire, negotiated by the EC Monday, to be allowed to take effect were ignored by the sides involved in the fighting.

Zagreb Radio said clashes continued around Nova Gradiska, a town close to where Serbian guerrillas and units of the Yugoslav army this week closed the Zagreb-Belgrade motorway which was the last road link between central and eastern Croatia.

"Fire is coming from all kinds of light and heavy weapons while several tank shells have landed on the suburbs of this town," the radio reported.

It said Croatian forces tried to dislodge guerrillas and troops

blocking the motorway.

Six people were wounded in fighting at nearby Ukucani and the radio said the town of Vinkovci in eastern Croatia came under mortar fire which landed near a hospital.

The radio said fierce fighting in which two died and 18 were wounded erupted in Osijek, the chief town in eastern Croatia, Thursday evening.

The battle started within minutes of Mr. Wijnandts obtaining a promise from Croatian and army forces that neither would open fire first.

The radio accused army tanks and mortar units of siding with the guerrillas in a "treacherous attack" which began 15 minutes after the EC team left Osijek.

Mr. Wijnandts's message to the combatants in eastern Croatia was: "A complete halt to the fighting is a precondition for a peace conference."

Former British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, who is to preside at the talks, also said fighting had to stop if negotiations were to begin.

Serbian guerrillas, sometimes with army help, have seized control of border areas of Croatia

where many of the breakaway republic's 600,000 Serb minority live. Almost 400 people have died in fighting since Croatia and Slovenia declared independence from Yugoslavia in June.

In clashes Thursday, three people were killed in the Croatian town of Vukovar, on the border with Serbia, which has been under guerrilla and army siege for more than a week. One was a woman killed by a direct hit on a retirement home.

Croatian television reported Thursday that Serbs massacred 24 villagers at Podravska Slatina in eastern Croatia the day before but there was no independent confirmation of the report.

The difficulties facing the peace conference were underlined by Croatian President Franjo Tudjman when he said Croats would fight to the last drop of blood.

"I promise... (we) will not let go of an inch of Croatian territory," he added.

The Netherlands, current president of the European Community, said Friday an EC peace conference on Yugoslavia must open Saturday as planned despite heavy fighting in Croatia.



An improvised Croatian armoured car patrols the road south of Zagreb, in an area that has come under attack by Serbians

"I think it should (go ahead)," Foreign Minister Hans Van Den Broek said as he arrived for a meeting with his 11 EC colleagues in Brussels.

"If we can't silence the guns, let the guns not silence us," he told British Broadcasting Cor-

poration (BBC) television. "We cannot just give up," Denmark's Uffe Ellemann-Jensen said as he arrived for the meeting. "It will be the meeting of the last chance," his Belgian colleague Mark Eyskens told reporters.

But Mr. Eyskens said the EC should demand that Serbian nationalists, fighting to carve a "greater Serbia" out of Croatian territory, withdraw from regions now under their control before the peace talks start in the Hague.

## Gorbachev, Yeltsin say communism has failed

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Mikhail Gorbachev and Boris Yeltsin spoke live to people from around the United States Friday about the upheaval in the Soviet Union, and the two leaders agreed that communism had failed in their country.

Sitting side by side in matching gold and ivory chairs in the glittering St. George's Hall in the Kremlin, they discussed everything from nuclear weapons to their own stormy relationship, in an electronic communion with callers ranging from Soviet exiles in New York to a Los Angeles actor.

In one of the more dramatic moments in the television broadcast on the U.S. network ABC, the two leaders were asked if they believed any country should live under communism, given the Soviet experience.

Mr. Yeltsin said it was a "tragedy for our people. And it was too bad it happened on our territory. It would have been better if it had happened in some smaller country."

Mr. Gorbachev agreed that the experience "has allowed us to say in a decision fashion that the model has failed."

But he added: "I believe that it would be on our part somewhat pretentious to indicate to other peoples how they should live."

The two also welcomed Soviet exiles to return, promised help for American investors, and tried to assure questioners that the Soviet nuclear arsenal was in good hands.

A questioner from Atlanta who

identified himself as Oleg Myshkin, a defector who said he had had problems with the KGB, was assured by Mr. Yeltsin, "there is no more danger... please come back."

On Thursday, Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Yeltsin worked together to gain approval of an interim government for the Soviet Union and a programme to begin a transition toward a new confederation of sovereign states.

The new system would end more than 70 years of Kremlin rule under the Communist Party and reorganize the Soviet government to give many powers to Soviet republics. As more and more of the 15 republics sought independence, the Soviet Union set up after the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution was threatened with disintegration.

The political upheaval followed an Aug. 18-21 coup attempt by a group of officials who tried to oust Mr. Gorbachev as president of the Soviet Union and end his reform moves. The coup collapsed and its leaders were arrested.

Peter Jennings, the host, said he had studio audiences in Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit, Miami, Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York City. The show was also broadcast in the Soviet Union at 7 a.m. local time (1000 GMT).

Mr. Jennings asked the two men how they got along.

Once upon a time that was a difficult question. A good deal of water has passed through the bridge," Mr. Gorbachev said.

Mr. Yeltsin said: "Yes, our relationship has not been an easy one. There've been dramatic times and there've been normal and businesslike times."

"There have been times when Gorbachev thought I was a political corpse... but somehow we've adjusted, and particularly after recent events after the coup, President Gorbachev has changed very seriously."

A questioner from San Francisco asked Mr. Gorbachev whether he believed Mr. Yeltsin was using him in a power play.

Mr. Gorbachev acknowledged there has been "a lot of talk about that." But "it's not a matter of Gorbachev and Yeltsin," Mr. Gorbachev said. "It's a matter of unifying all democratic powers in the country."

From Miami, a Cuban exile asked whether the leaders foresaw the withdrawal of military hardware from his former home.

Mr. Yeltsin said, "I think that the process has begun and it must be continued. Gradually the troops must be moved out."

Mr. Gorbachev, however, struck a different note, saying that relations with Cuba were "being transformed."

Pressed further on whether aid to Cuba would continue, Mr. Gorbachev said relations were "mutually beneficial in an economic sense... we don't intend to alter our relations in a different direction."

A Ukrainian priest asked about the leaders' personal religious beliefs.

"This is a question of personal sovereignty," Mr. Gorbachev said. "To allow each person to select his own religion, I do feel it necessary to add that I am personally an atheist."

Mr. Yeltsin said, "the services, the ritual aspect... I don't really observe those, although I've been in church quite often, because during the service there's a kind of internal feeling of moral cleansing."

A questioner from Detroit, educator Carl Gregory, asked who controls Soviet nuclear weapons now and what protections are in place against their accidental use.

"No one should have any anxiety in this regard," Mr. Gorbachev said. "There is a very rigid mechanism that excludes the possibility of any surprises."

The two leaders spoke in Russian and ABC provided an English translation.

All Soviet nuclear weapons could be moved to the Russian Federation, Mr. Yeltsin said.

"I think there will be a process of moving the weapons from the Ukraine and Kazakhstan to the Russian Federation," he said.

"Why? Because the main thing is our responsibility for control of nuclear weapons, and not only for nuclear weapons," Mr. Yeltsin said.

Mr. Yeltsin said control over nuclear arms would be "centralized, territorial and very strict." Mr. Gorbachev added: "No one should have any worries on this account."

## Protests against president of Georgia intensify

TBILISI, USSR (AP) — Protests against Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia intensified Thursday as his opponents told a rally the republic traded a Communist dictatorship for one based on nationalism.

Thousands marched on government house for the fourth day of protests after Georgian Interior Ministry troops dispersed Monday's demonstration with gunfire, wounding at least five people.

Thursday's protests were peaceful, however, as flag-waving crowds were kept from government house by regular police and buses lined up end-to-end.

In the latest rally, a broad front of opposition parties demanded Mr. Gamsakhurdia's resignation and new legislative elections, saying Gamsakhurdia maintained a socialist system under his personal control.

As crowds formed for the rally, a column of soldiers rolled past, many slapping open palms with the marchers. Other raised fists in salute.

After Monday, soldiers from the republic's National Guard — until recently known as Mr. Gamsakhurdia's private army — said they would not control crowds or shoot on Georgia.

Speaker after speaker used the

word "dictatorship" at the rally. Mr. Gamsakhurdia, a former dissident, was elected president in May by a landslide. Since then, criticism against him has risen sharply.

As tension mounted this week, Mr. Gamsakhurdia's government has closed all Georgian newspapers, saying they would be replaced. The government already controls television and radio.

Mr. Gamsakhurdia also banned some food, mineral and other exports to other republics.

Opposition to the president increased after Georgian Prime Minister Tengiz Segua and Foreign Minister Giorgi Khoshtaria resigned in mid-August. Each cited government incompetence, corruption and threats to democracy.

In a joint interview with the Associated Press, both described what they called purposeful strides towards dictatorship.

"The independent media are usurped," Mr. Segua said. "If we follow the road we're on, we will end up with a closed state modelled after Albania, with all the consequences."

Mr. Segua said after he resigned, Mr. Gamsakhurdia used "Stalin-like tactics" to follow his movement and intimidate him.

## Vanuatu premier replaced

PORT VILA, Vanuatu (R) — Vanuatu's embattled Prime Minister Father Walter Lini lost power Friday to the challenger he once said he wanted to succeed him.

Fr. Lini, leader of the tiny South Pacific nation since independence in 1980, was succeeded by former Education and Foreign Minister Donald Kalpokas, one of several ministers he sacked from his cabinet earlier this year.

Under attack for what many saw as his dictatorial and undemocratic behaviour, 48-year-old Fr. Lini lost a no-confidence vote in parliament by 24 votes to 21.

Eighteen members of his ruling Vannakun Pati defected and voted in alliance with the six-member opposition Tan Union.

Mr. Kalpokas later won a secret ballot by 25 votes to 21 in an election for Fr. Lini's successor.

Mr. Kalpokas earlier told parliament Fr. Lini had breached the constitution by denying freedom of expression which had included imposing censorship on the national broadcaster, Radio Vanuatu.

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## Remnants of Liberian army invade guerrilla territory to oust Taylor

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — Fierce fighting was reported Thursday between soldiers who had been loyal to former President Samuel Doe, invading from Sierra Leone, and forces controlled by guerrilla leader Charles Taylor.

The Doe loyalists invaded northern Liberia Wednesday in a bid to drive Mr. Taylor out of areas he controls, Mr. Taylor's radio station said.

The station said the invaders attacked Wednesday and rebels were battling them in the village of Tienneh, 110 kilometres north west of Monrovia, the capital, and 12 kilometres from the Sierra Leone border.

Tienneh had been destroyed and hundreds of civilians had been slaughtered, according to Mr. Taylor's radio station. The station has often exaggerated casualty figures in the past, and its latest report could not be independently verified.

The fighting, which also was reported by the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC), appeared to indicate that another round of bloodshed was beginning in the 20-month-old civil conflict in Liberia that claimed more than 10,000 lives last year before a

West African army forced an uneasy truce.

A West African peace plan has stalled over Mr. Taylor's refusal to disarm his army, the largest in the West African nation.

The invaders appeared to have the blessing of Sierra Leone, which has been fighting since mid-March to repulse an invasion by Mr. Taylor's rebels and a small Sierra Leonean rebel group.

Sierra Leone's army reported Thursday it had taken the Mano River bridge, the main link between Sierra Leone and Liberia. This appeared to open the way for the Liberians to attack Tienneh, which is on the main road from the bridge to Monrovia.

The British Broadcasting Corp. reported Sierra Leonean troops who secured the bridge on the Liberian side of the frontier had fought Wednesday alongside a recently formed Liberian resistance group called the United Liberia Movement for Democracy, led by Mr. Doe's former ambassador to Sierra Leone, Gen. Albert Karpah.

A BBC correspondent in the Sierra Leonean border town of Zimni said the Liberian contingent included remnants of Doe's

## Lenin's last wish may come true

MOSCOW (AP) — The mayor of a city where the Soviet Union began has proposed a fitting ending to the Soviet system: Burying its founder.

Leningrad Mayor Anatoly Sobchak suggested Thursday that the parliamentary session that debated the country's monolithic power structure should conclude with a decision to inter the body of Vladimir I. Lenin.

"I propose to end our congress in a dignified manner and adopt the following decision: Fulfill the last wish of... Lenin and bury him in accordance with religious and national traditions and customs," Mr. Sobchak said to applause from fellow lawmakers.

President Mikhail Gorbachev said that while he was "not rejecting" the proposal of Leningrad's radical mayor, "I think we should deal with this problem wisely and quietly."

"We should deal with that whenever the new Supreme Soviet (legislature) gets together," Mr. Gorbachev said, ending the discussion.

Except for a brief period during World War II, Lenin's embalmed body has been on public display for 66 years in a glass-covered sarcophagus inside a marble mausoleum on Red Square, one of the most sacred Soviet shrines.

Lenin's reputation has suffered as Communist power diminishes, especially since last month's failed coup. Voters in Mr. Sobchak's Leningrad decided earlier this year to recommend changing the city's name back to St. Petersburg, and his statues have been removed throughout the Soviet Union for months.

An early suggestion for removing his body from the mausoleum came in April 1989, from a stage director speaking on Soviet television. Writer Yuri Karyakin renewed the suggestion in June 1989 at the Congress of People's Deputies.

Outside his tomb Thursday, Soviets have mixed feelings about disturbing Lenin's remains.

"It's our history, and it should stay the way it is, regardless of whether it's bad or good," said telegraph operator Yuri Karatshin. "Why are we breaking our history?"

"Let them tear everything down," said Vladimir Maksimov, a worker. "It's a grave. Why are there graves on Red Square? People used to sell things here. Have fun here, now they've turned the whole square into a grave."

To electrician Yuri Petrin, it was a matter of honouring Lenin's own wishes: "He requested to be buried where his mother is buried. That would be the most just decision, both for human and Christian reasons."

Although Mr. Sobchak referred to religious burial, Lenin was a strident atheist, and would not have wished for any church involvement. The Soviet founder did, however, want to be buried next to his mother in Leningrad's Volkovskoye Cemetery.

His widow, Nadezhda Krupskaya, bitterly opposed interment of Lenin in an above-ground mausoleum where his body could be viewed, but she was overruled by the party leaders, including Josef Stalin.

## COLUMN

### Marilyn Monroe 'born with sixth toe'

LONDON (R) — An early picture of Marilyn Monroe apparently proving the Hollywood movie goddess was born with six toes on her left foot appeared in Britain's tabloid Daily Mirror. A Mirror story billed as exclusive said the tiny flaw, later removed by surgery, had been kept secret until now. The newspaper quoted a spokeswoman for the birth defect foundation as saying: "I suppose it took this long to come out because no one ever looked below her knees."

### Travolta marries Kelly Preston in Paris

LOS ANGELES (R) — John Travolta, star of the hit dance movies Saturday Night Fever and Grease, secretly married actress Kelly Preston in Paris, his Los Angeles publicist said. Paul Bloch, said the 37-year-old star and his 28-year-old bride took their vows in a private ceremony at the Hotel De Crillon in Paris. The couple recently announced they were expecting the birth of a child next spring. Bloch said the two met while starring in the film The Experts in Vancouver, British Columbia, in 1988, and their romance blossomed when they met again making separate movies there that year. The couple are in France to attend the premiere of The Tender, starring Travolta, at the Deauville Film Festival. Travolta first made his mark on Hollywood as a cracking high school smart guy, Vince Barbarino in a 1970s hit TV series Welcome Back Kotter.

### Beauty before brains, says Thai air boss

BANGKOK (R) — Air stewardesses should have beauty not brains, says the boss of Thai Airways International. "Intelligent women tend not to be good-looking," said Air Chief Marshal Kasat Rojananai, who is a member of Thailand's military junta, the air force chief and president of the airline. He ordered his airline to hire prettier girls, saying some customers had complained about the looks of the present stewardesses. He said this was because too many college-educated women had been hired and suggested recruiting should be conducted along the lines of a beauty pageant, the nation newspaper reported.

### Japan women put off thoughts of marriage

TOKYO (R) — Japanese women are delaying marriage while men seem increasingly anxious to tie the knot, latest government statistics show. The average age at which women marry rose last year to a record 25.9 years, from 25.4 in 1989. The average age men fell to 28.4. The Japanese have a saying that women are like Christmas cake — after the 25th, it's no good. But more and more women are choosing to follow a career before they marry. It is now easier for them to postpone wedding plans — there are more unwed men than women in Japan.

### La Toya: My dad sexually abused my sister

NEW YORK (AP) — La Toya Jackson says her father sexually abused her older sister and physically abused her nine other siblings, including superstars-to-be Michael and Janet. If Joe Jackson was angry or in a bad mood, "he would beat everybody in the family. There was a lot of abuse. There wasn't only just physical abuse, but mental abuse and sexual abuse," La Toya said Thursday on NBC's "Today" show. Attempts to reach Joe Jackson for comment were unsuccessful. His business phone in Los Angeles is unlisted. Older sister Rebbie "was sexually abused by my father," said La Toya, who was promoting her new tell-all autobiography, Growing Up In The Jackson Family: La Toya. Among La Toya's other statements: Sister Janet is anti-Semitic. "She knows she has to work with them in the business and she keeps quiet." Brother Jermaine is jealous of sibling Michael's incredible success. "Jermaine is definitely jealous of him. It's very blatant." Her family, angry about her living in New York, hired men to kidnap her. She said she married her manager to protect herself from her family, and plans to end the marriage "as soon as this is all blown over."

### KGB won't open Gulag archives

MOSCOW (AP) — The KGB will not open the archives of Josef Stalin's prison camps for fear of opening a Pandora's box of vengeance, the deputy chief of the Soviet secret police said Thursday. "Opening Gulag archives is a very complex political, historical and moral question," Maj.-Gen. Nikolai Stolyarov said. "I think it is too early to open the archives today." Not only the relatives of those who were put to death for no reason are alive. There are also relatives of those who took part in the repressions, who were informants, who exterminated innocent beings. Can you imagine what chaos might unfurl in our society, which is already unstable?" he explained. Millions of people died under Stalin's dictatorship in jails and prison camps run by the Gulag, or the Russian acronym for the State Camps Administration. In recent years, KGB has released some detailed files from Stalin's era, mostly those on well known political or artistic personalities.

### Guatemala recognises Belize

GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala (R) — Guatemala has officially recognised the independence of neighbouring Belize but officials said it had not dropped its territorial claim to part of the former British colony. A Guatemalan government statement referred to "the independent state of Belize" while calling for renewed negotiations over its centuries-old dispute with the Caribbean nation that gained independence from Britain in 1981. The statement "constitutes an official recognition of the state of Belize and its independent and sovereign nature," Edmond Mulet, Guatemalan deputy and chief negotiator in the talks, told Reuters. "However, the Guatemalan state maintains its territorial claims on Belizean territory and hopes to be able to resolve the dispute according to international law," he said.

### Tutu's son sentenced for bomb threat

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Trevor Tutu, son of Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, was sentenced Thursday to 3½ years in prison for making a bomb threat against an airline. Mr. Tutu, who has been involved in several confrontations with authorities in recent years, remains free on bail of 5,000 rand (\$1,700) pending an appeal. Mr. Tutu, 34, was convicted Wednesday on three counts of violating the civil aviation act and one of criminal injury. According to court testimony, Mr. Tutu asked get off a South African Airways plane during a brief stopover in the southern city of East London on Oct. 8, 1989. When he was refused, he pushed crew members out of his path and went into the terminal building. When attempting to reboard the plane, he refused to pass through a metal detector and threatened to "activate a device" in his luggage on the aircraft, according to testimony. The flight was delayed for four hours while airport personnel searched the plane, but found nothing.

### Colombia's leading drug warrior resigns

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Colombia's secret police chief, who led a military-style crackdown against the violent Medellín cocaine cartel, has resigned at the request of President Cesar Gaviria. Gen. Miguel Maza Marquez's civilian replacement, Fernando Brito, promised reporters at a Bogota press conference Thursday that his country would "strengthen its fight against drug traffickers." The appointment of Mr. Brito, 36, until now the president's judicial advisor, is the second time in two weeks that Mr. Gaviria named a civilian to fill posts previously held by military men. On Aug. 22, Rafael Pardo became Colombia's first civilian defence minister in 38 years. Despite the trend toward civilian postings, there is speculation that Gen. Maza's exit could be part of a deal Mr. Gaviria cut with the Medellín cartel.

### Blood clot found in TV pastor's brain

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Doctors found a slight swelling around the brain of American television Evangelist Robert H. Schuller, and he was listed in guarded condition Friday, an aide said. But doctors described Rev. Schuller's slightly deteriorated condition as temporary, according to the spokesman, Michael Nason. He said doctors continue to expect the preacher to recover fully from the cerebral hemorrhage he suffered earlier this week. Rev. Schuller, 64, host of the internationally syndicated "Hour Of Power" television show, was found lying unconscious in an Amsterdam hotel room Monday during a one-day stopover earlier this week. Doctors said they believed Rev. Schuller had ruptured a blood vessel in his brain when he hit his head getting into a car Sunday. Surgeon J. Wolbers of the Free University Hospital removed a large blood clot from between Rev. Schuller's skull and brain Monday, and said afterward there was no additional bleeding.

### Indonesia says Aceh under control

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia denied Friday widespread allegations it had committed atrocities in the northern province of Aceh, where local sources say hundreds of people have been killed. The sources in Aceh say the killings have taken place since the military began a campaign against a rebellion by a mixed group of separatists, criminals and sacked soldiers. Interior Minister Rudini said some captured rebels might have been killed trying to escape but he denied the army had acted outside the law. "I think Aceh is now quite secure. All of society lives quietly," he told Reuters in an interview Friday. "It's completely under control." Several organisations, including U.S.-based Asia Watch, have accused Jakarta of serious human rights violations such as torture and summary executions. "I don't know what kind of evidence those charges are based on. Those rebels were armed... there is a possibility some people not connected became victims," Mr. Rudini said. The situation was also quiet in east Timor where a small group of guerrillas continues to fight Jakarta.

Joely, in 1985